

MEMOIRS

FOR THE

HISTORY

OF

ANNE of AUSTRIA,

WIFE TO

Lewis XIII. King of France,

And Regent of that Kingdom during
the Minority of Lewis XIV.

By Madam *de* MOTTEVILLE,
her Chief Favourite and Confident.

V O L. V.

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NAVAL OF AUSTRIA

TO

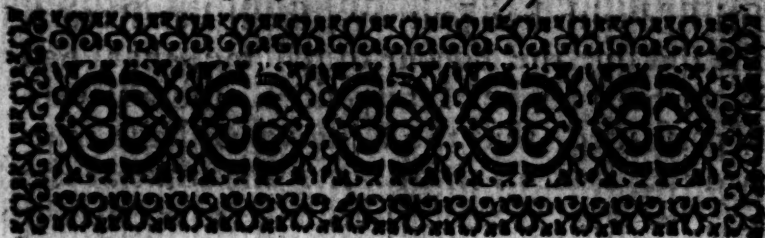
J. J. Banks



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ANNE of AUSTRIA.



AT the Expiration of some Days, and after several Negotiations, the two Courts parted; Madam Royal, the Duchess of *Savoy*, return'd with a Writing, that the King had given her, sign'd with his own Hand, wherein he promis'd to marry the Princess *Margaret*, in case the Peace were not concluded, and that he cou'd not have the *Infanta*; and the King and the Queen took the Way to *Paris*, where they arriv'd about the end of *January 1659*. The Queen was well pleas'd that she had broke the Marriage

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with Savoy, was very desirous to bring about that with Spain, and thereupon not a little satisfy'd with her Journey; for at her Return, she did me the honour to tell me, that, had it not been for her Interposition, she was easily persuaded, that the King would have carry'd the Princess *Mariana*; and that at the first he was so strongly inclin'd to it, that it was no easy matter to obtain, for the Offers of Spain, such a Reception as they deserv'd. The King thought himself likewise happy in having got quit of this Affair so well; and the Cardinal was still in some hopes, that the Marriage with the *Infanta* wou'd not succeed. The only Person that cou'd return disgusted from this Journey, was Monsieur (the King's Brother) by reason of the Duke of Savoy's unjust Pretensions, in assuming the Air and Figure of a King; but he might easily comfort himself upon that Score, considering how far his real Greatness carry'd him above that false Chimera; for, under a crown'd Head, no one cou'd be greater than he.

The King, at his Return, found his Affairs on the Frontiers in a good Situation. During his Absence, the Marschal *Turenne*, who commanded his Armies, had posted himself in the middle of *Flanders*, almost at the Gates of *Brussels*, between the *Lis* and the *Scheld*, where he was encamp'd; and had carry'd the Glory of *France* very high. The Prince and Don *John* cou'd do nothing against him: The Horse ravag'd the Country round, and the Enemy was forc'd to suffer it.

This apparent ill State of the King of Spain's Affairs might have promis'd us great

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Advantage from a Continuation of the War; but we were now either to bid adieu to Peace for ever, or to take the Opportunity of his Weakness; and the Minister was always wont to say, *That the War should be carry'd on until the King of Spain was brought to demand a Peace.* Many things might happen to repair the Enemy's Strength; and therefore 'twas thought advisable by the Minister to make a Peace then, and to conclude it upon reasonable Terms; otherwise he might never have the making of it, but perhaps stay till such Revolutions of Fortune might come upon him, as all States were subject to, and those of our Court had but too much experienc'd.

The Queen, after her Return, continued to shew, but in very gentle Terms, her Aversion to the Marriage with *Savoy*, and her Dislike of the King's persisting in the Love he seem'd to have for *Mlle Mancini*. The same Scruple that made her oppose his Amour with *Mlle de la Motte*, made her averse to this; and the high Quality of being the Cardinal's Niece did not hinder her from expressing her Sentiments very freely; but her Freedom had no Effect, because the King's Passion was hitherto, as it were, countenanc'd and protected by the Minister.

The Queen, out of a Principle of Duty and Conscience (which should always be the Rule of our Actions) had not only an Aversion to this young Lady, but as to her own particular likewise, very great Reason to complain of her; for, tho' she had declar'd her Dislike of such Conduct, the King never afterwards appear'd in her Sight, but *Mlle Man-*

cini was always with him. She follow'd him into every Place, and (what Decency and due Respect to the Queen should have made her forbear) was continually whispering in his Ear. For these Reasons, the Queen thought her self concern'd to speak to the King; but he did not listen to her Advice with his usual Readiness; nay, at first, he set himself against it, and seem'd a little angry.

'Twas no wonder indeed, considering the King's Age, that Pleasure should be desirous to get the Dominion of his Soul; she is not accusom'd at those Years to meet with *Catoes* that disclaim all Commerce with her, and 'twas easy to see that notwithstanding the King's great Wisdom, he was beginning then to have more Inclination to follow *Cesar's*, than the *Censor's* Example.

The King and Queen however continued in perfect Concord; their Love and Union was too firm to be disturb'd, tho they had not the same Inclinations, and M.lle *Mancini* had not equally their Hearts. The King's Thoughts were set upon his Diversions, and the Queen's Care was to have him live like a true Christian, and to banish from his Heart every thing that might hinder his loving her Niece, the *Infanta*, for whom she design'd him.

The Queen's Aversion to M.lle *Mancin* was very much increas'd by a Discourse she had with her Uncle. He was a Slave to Ambition, liable to Ingratitude, and had a natural Desire to prefer himself above all others. His Niece, drunk with the Passion of Love, and confiding in the Strength of her Charms, had Presumption to think that the King lov'd her

her enough to do any thing for her; and thereupon she inform'd her Uncle, that as Matters then stood between that Prince and her, it was not impossible, with his Assistance, for her to become Queen. The Uncle could not deny himself the Pleasure of making some Proof at least of so brave an Adventure, and accordingly spoke, one Day, to the Queen, in seeming Raillery, upon his Niece's Folly, but in so ambiguous and confus'd a manner, as sufficiently discover'd the Purpose of his Heart, and provok'd the Queen to give him this sharp Answer: *I can scarce believe, M. Cardinal, that the King will so much debase himself; but if it is possible for him to have any such Thought, I tell you before-hand, that all France shall rise up against you and him: Nay, I my self will head the Revolt, and engage my Son in it.* The Consequence of this Discourse was very severe upon this generous Mother, by reason of the Resentment, which this Minister hid from all the World, but nourish'd in his Breast as long as he liv'd, and which produc'd Effects on a thousand Occasions, whose Causes were never known. The King himself might not perceive how far his Ambition tended, since it was hid under the extravagant Passion of this young Lady, was a thing more pardonable in her than in him, and not so displeasing to the King, while he thus saw himself lov'd to distraction.

Pimentel came to *Paris* incognito, to finish the Treaty with the Minister: The Queen saw him in private; and the Appearance of Peace inspir'd the Hearts of all *French-men* with Joy. God at the same time was pleas'd

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so to order it, that the Queen of Spain was brought to Bed of a second Son, which gave the Queen still more Hopes of seeing the *Infanta*, her Niece, soon become her Daughter-in-Law.

At the same time D. *John* of Austria, by his Father the King of Spain's Order, left *Flanders*, where he commanded, to return into *Spain*. The King sent him Passports to go thro *France*, and the Cardinal sent one to visit him on the Frontier. D. *John* engag'd the Messenger to intreat the Cardinal that he might see the Queen; at which the Cardinal was vex'd, and publickly reprimanded *Millet*, who was the Person he had sent, for not declining the Engagement. The Queen indeed, who had hitherto discover'd a great Desire to see this Prince, began all on a sudden to speak more coldly of the Matter; which, as the Court observ'd, did very well agree with the Minister's Concern, who was willing to persuade the Speculative, that the Alliance with *Spain* was what he always dreaded, and what he wou'd never have come into, had it not been for the Force of some Incidents that constrain'd him to it, and the Power of the Acknowledgments that he ow'd to the Queen; and what made it believ'd that he had no great Desire for it, was his giving the *Duchess* of *Savoy* great Hopes under-hand, when at the same time he seem'd to be the Queen's Confident, in the Opposition she was making to that Match. One Day, as he was speaking to a certain Friend of his about this Affair, he said, that the Queen's Aversion to the Princess *Margaret* troubled him much; that with respect

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to his own Interest, he shou'd never be for the Infanta; that it wou'd not at all be agreeable to him to have her married to the King, because she had that Opinion of herself, as to believe, that the King, in all *Europe*, cou'd not have a Princess equal to her; and he added, that he was apprehensive the Infanta, when once in *France*, would follow the Example of the Queen her Aunt, (who cou'd never endure Cardinal *Ricblieu*) and form Intrigues against him.

The Queen at last was willing to see Don *John of Austria*, who came to *Paris* incognito, to avoid the Trouble that his Quality might give. She receiv'd him at *Val-de-Grace*, and had no doubt a great deal of Joy to behold in him, a Person of her own Blood. He came thither in a great grey Coat, having on a Suit of black Velvet, with Silver Buttons, entirely in the *French* Fashion.

The Queen, who was willing to discourse with him alone, took none with her but Monsieur (the King's Brother) and some few Ladies. I had the Honour to be one of the number that were suffer'd to go: The Prince, tho he was but a Bastard, I saw commanded a great deal of Respect: He was attended by Persons of Quality, and those of his Train were some of the most illustrious Names in *Spain*. He seem'd to be a little Man, but very well made for his Size. His Face was agreeable, his Hair black, his Eyes blue, and full of Fire; his Hands seem'd fine, and his Looks lively. After he had saluted the Queen, she led him into a Corner of the Room, a little separate from the rest, where they were together.

ther three quarters of an Hour, if not a whole Hour, all the while standing: Thence he went to lodge at the Cardinal *Mazarin's*, where he was magnificently entertain'd. The Croud about him was great, and every one ran with eagerness to see him. The Ladies were there both at Dinner and Supper, and as he knew not their Quality, he look'd at them all without speaking first, or desiring any to sit; but those that were minded to speak to him of any thing, he answer'd with Wit and Gallantry enough. The Queen had him conducted thro a Back-Door into the *Louvre*, and brought into her Bathing-Room, which was very fine; she intended to shew him the King, whom he long'd much to see, and promis'd that he shou'd salute him in particular. When he was come into the Room, and had been a little while with her, the Queen order'd the King to be call'd, who came in soon after to shew himself; and many Persons of Quality thronging in with him, (as the Manner in *France* is) D. *John* turn'd to the Queen and said, * *Senora, es esto el particular del Rey?* whereupon he commended him highly, and said, that if he had not been a King by Birth, he deserv'd to be one by Election. Two days after this he departed, having seen nothing more of *Paris* than the Fair of *St. Germain's*.

The Queen was very well pleas'd, and by the Joy she had to see this Prince, she gave the World to know how much she lov'd every thing she ought to love. It was then *Lent*,

* Madam, is that particular Person the King?

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and the Queen was in some Concern that she, and those that belong'd to her, did always eat Meat. She had a great desire to become more regular, and more observant of the Commands of the Church; but as Fish was scarcer at *Madrid*, than at *Paris*, People were not accustom'd to keep Fast-Days there, and when they came to other Places, forgot to correct that Abuse.

The Easter-Week being near at hand, a Company of young People that belong'd to the Court, went to pass away the Holidays at *Roiſſi*; among whom were the Count of *Vivonne*, Son-in-Law to Mad. **** that own'd the House; *Mancini*, Nephew to the Minister, *Manicamp*, and some others. 'Twas said that their irregular Appetites led them to make choice of that Time, to commit some Debauches in, the least of which, was their eating Flesh on *Good-Friday*; for they were accus'd of having perpetrated such Impieties as were not only unbecoming Christians, but any rational Creatures. The Queen, who was acquainted with their Behaviour, express'd great Resentment at it; she banish'd the *Abbé le Camus*, for only being acquainted with these irregular Persons, tho he was not in their Company on the Days when these things were transacted. The Cardinal *Mazarin*, to shew that he wou'd not protect the Crime, was willing to punish all the Accomplices in the Person of his Nephew, whom he banish'd from Court and from his Presence, and after he had punish'd him, he forgave the rest; but they were not acquitted without severe Reprimands from the King. This Action made every
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body, in all Places, as well as in his Presence, praise the Cardinal. As he had often prefer'd his Interest to his Honour, by this Conduct he made it appear, that he wou'd for the remainder of his Life sacrifice all to his Glory; He saw himself at the height of Greatness, and a Greatness whose Possession he was secure of; and therefore he was minded not only to possess the high Fortune he enjoy'd, but had likewise a desire, no doubt, to do some such publick Actions as might make him be accounted deserving of it. The Crimes of these young Debauchees, gave the Cardinal an Opportunity of signalizing himself; but the Credit of his Family suffer'd a little, for his Nephew, as I said, was banish'd, and the little Beauty his Niece had was celebrated by some Wits of renown, in a short Song, that made not very much for her Honour.

The Minister being willing to accomplish his Design of giving Peace to *Europe*, and press'd by the Queen, who was desirous to have it confirm'd, sent the King's Orders to the Frontiers to have all Acts of Hostility cease, which was afterwards a considerable Loss to *France*; for the King of *Spain*, who had not near so sincere Intentions as the King, the Queen, and the Minister, found his Account too much in this Cessation of Arms, which depriv'd the King of the Advantages that a victorious Army, which was in the middle of *Flanders*, and in a likely Condition to make an entire Conquest of it, might have gain'd him. The Continuation of the War might at least have enforc'd the Project of that Peace, which was made at *Paris* between

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tween Cardinal *Mazarin* and *Pimentel*, the two Kings Ministers, every Article of which was advantageous to ours.

The Cardinal was shortly to go to the Frontier, to try if he cou'd finish that great Work that all *Europe* was concern'd in, and Don *Louis-de-Haro*, the first Minister of *Spain*, was to come thither likewise. The King's Minister made ready for his Journey with the more Satisfaction, in that he was accompany'd with all publick Benedictions : It seem'd likely, that being forc'd by the Queen's late menacing words to become wise and timorous, he was resolv'd to sacrifice all his other Desires to the Honour he shou'd have in contributing to so great a Good.

The Queen saw him at parting with Joy, perswaded that he had eas'd his Mind of every thing that cou'd displease him ; but she herself was not so entirely content. The King's Attachment to that Minister's Niece made a Woman of her high Spirit continually uneasy. She fear'd every thing that might be unbecoming the King, and was unwilling too that the Infanta shou'd bring the King an Heart all pure and entirely his, and then find one fill'd with an Affection base and unbecoming him, but enough to make their Marriage unhappy, by reason of the rough Temper she knew that young Woman was of. Nor was she without Fear, that the Prevalence of an Inclination, not so consistent with the King's Greatness, might carry him beyond his proper Intentions. His Intentions were, as yet, conformable to what he ow'd to himself; but a Passion, tho' weak, when nourish'd and sustain'd by one that
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is more violent and strong, might change them in time ; and this was what the Queen apprehended. These Thoughts never came into her head upon the matter of the Countess of *Soissons* ; but on this Occasion she was full of Trouble. At last, having had several Suspicions of this nature, that were not without reason, and that tended, at least, to the Destruction of the Infanta's Felicity, whom she purpos'd to make both Queen and happy ; she discover'd to the Cardinal, who was then making ready to depart, what her Sentiments were. She set before him the Desire she had to part the King her Son from that Object that held him in such Chains, as she esteem'd, dishonourable for him. She was for shewing the King the Mirrour that was presented to *Renold* ; not only to draw him from the Enchantments of *Armida*, but to force him likewise to flee from a noisom Prison. In this Design she trusted in the Fidelity that the Cardinal was oblig'd to have for her ; of him she demanded a Remedy of this Evil, tho' he seem'd to her to have some criminal Temptations upon the Point, had already fail'd her in many important matters, and usurp'd all her Power, which he took pleasure to destroy. But at last, that Heart, which was not good enough to serve the Queen faithfully as it ought, was not however wicked enough, to fail her in a Matter wherein he saw her more sensibly affected ; and one may say, that he deserv'd no small Praise, considering the great Ambition he had to rule, and to ingross all Authority both of Mother and Son, that he cou'd prevail with himself to do a thing

so contrary to his Greatness, for this only Reason, that it was agreeable to his Duty; for tho the Advantages he might promise himself from the Favour of his Niece were but uncertain, and might even seem impossible; yet we know, that it is but too natural for a Man to desire what he should not, and commonly we are more apt to flatter our selves with the Hopes of succeeding in the Enterprize of a thing that appears above our Strength, than by a wise Moderation to keep our selves in the middle of the Wheel of Fortune, when we see a Degree higher that we can ascend to.

This is one of the most beautiful Passages of the Cardinal's Life, one of the chief Actions that he did to pay the infinite Obligations he had to the Queen; and he enter'd so sincerely into her Sentiments, that notwithstanding the Tie of Consanguinity, and a Contrariety to his Interest, yet he was resolv'd to send his Niece far enough out of the King's way.

That Prince who had really a great Tenderness for her, was so touch'd with the Sorrow she had for parting with him, that there was a time wherein his Passion carry'd him to propose to the Cardinal (as some say he did) that he wou'd even marry his Niece, rather than see her suffer so much for the Love of him. That Minister, who saw that the Negotiation of Peace, and the Marriage of the *Infanta* was too far advanc'd to be broke off, without any manner of hesitation, took a Method to gain himself Honour, by refusing to comply with what the King wou'd have done upon the first movement of a violent Passion,

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but wou'd soon have repented of, and reproach'd him for not restraining him, when he shou'd see the whole Kingdom rising up against him, to prevent his dishonouring himself with so unworthy a Marriage. He therefore told him, " That having been chosen
 " by the late King his Father, and since that,
 " by the Queen his Mother, to assist him with
 " his Counsels, and having hitherto serv'd him
 " with inviolable Fidelity, he wou'd take care
 " how he abus'd the Confidence of his Poible,
 " wherewith he had entrusted him, or the
 " Authority he had given him in his Kingdom,
 " by suffering him to do a thing so contrary to his Glory; that himself was Master
 " of his Niece, and wou'd sooner stab her than
 " advance her by such gross Treason." The King therefore must at last consent to this cruel Separation, and take leave of Mlle Mancini, who was to go to *Brouage*, the Place appointed for her Exile. This was not done without Tears on his Side as well as hers, but he abstain'd from speaking any thing, upon which, as some will have it, she cou'd not forbear saying to him, * *Vous pleurez, & vous êtes le Maître*. On this occasion however he had Strength to overcome himself, and only gave her some Token of the great and sensible Friendship he had for her.

'Twas neither the Merit nor Quality of the Person, in all Appearance, that cou'd be the Cause of so great a Passion; but it may be said in favour of that young Prince, that he is

• You cry, and are their Master.

not the first who has suffer'd himself to be taken with Charms, that were unknown to any body else, for that which makes a Conjunction of Hearts is often caus'd by invifible Bands, which the Stars are accountable for; nor is he the first Monarch that has prov'd that Love equals those that love. On this Occasion his Generosity out-did his Reason, and what he wou'd not have thought on in the Course of his ordinary Sentiments, might be suffer'd without Shame in certain Moments, when Love, Gratitude, and Pity had taken full poffession of his Soul, and left no room there for Reason.

The King was wonderfully to be commended in that he was sensible of the harm the Queen had done him, and notwithstanding his desires, saw that it was much of the same nature with what Surgeons do to those that they mean to cure of their Sores by Incisions and Causticks: he bewail'd himself with her; he complain'd not of her, but to her; and comforted himself with this illustrious Mother for the Loss of the *false good* that she had taken from him, what he knew to be such, and now esteem'd no more; but cou'd not however lose without sorely afflicting himself, and suffering his Heart sometimes to carry him into Sentiments that his Prudence and Reason at length found out the means to stifle.

The Night before M.*lle Mancini's* Departure, the King came into the Queen's Apartment, extremely dejected with Sorrow. She took him aside, and talk'd a long while with him; but as the Tenderness of an Heart in love requires Solitude, the Queen herself took

took up a Light that was upon the Table, and going out of her Chamber into her Bathing-Room, desir'd the King to follow her. After they had been there together about an Hour, the King came out with Eyes a little swell'd, and the Queen follow'd after, so touch'd with the Condition wherein she was oblig'd to put him, that it was easy to see how much Pain the King's Sufferings gave her. She did me the honour to tell me then very softly, *I pity the King, he hath both Reason and Tenderness in him; but I have been telling him, that I'm sure he'll thank me one Day for the hurt I do him now; and for what I see in him, I do not doubt but he will.* The King and the Queen both were highly to be commended for preserving an entire Union upon this Occasion; while he generously suffer'd the severe Effects of a perfect Affection, and she felt part of the Affliction which her self brought upon a Son that she lov'd so dearly. In short, she took care to cure him by Methods of Endearment, and by such a Procedure, as had neither Flattery nor Harshness in it.

The next Day M.lle *Mancini* departed, being accompany'd with M.lle *Hortense*, and little *Mariana*, her Sisters: Many Tears were shed on both sides, and particularly on the Lady's. The King waited on her to her Coach, shewing his Concern publicly; soon after he went to take leave of the Queen, and parted that Moment to go to *Chantilli*, there to spend a few Days for the Recovery of his Strength, to which his Reason, good Sense, and such a Soul as his, that God had endow'd with all the

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the Magnanimity necessary for a great Prince, mightily contributed.

From what I have all along wrote, it appears, that the excessive Authority which this Minister had usurp'd in the Kingdom for some Years, had swallow'd up all lawful Power; so that notwithstanding the Queen's great indifference as to the Desire of Government, she cou'd not but perceive (tho it was too late) that all she had done for him, cou'd not hinder him from endeavouring to keep the King to himself. She knew that on several Occasions he was always endeavouring to ruin her in his Esteem, either in serious Talk or Raillery, which he made no scruple of doing to her Face: tho the Queen's Goodness and Greatness of Soul made her so blind to the Cardinal's Conduct, as not to suspect him guilty of Malice; yet she often-times found herself incommoded by the Opposition he made to her Sentiments, which hinder'd her from acting freely and according to her own Mind in things she had a desire to do, and where her own particular Satisfaction was concern'd.

During her Regency, she did not so much mind the Power she gave to another, because she consider'd it as subject and dependent on her own; but for all the Contempt she had for it, (too great indeed for a Person of her Quality and Birth) she cou'd not but perceive that she had then no Credit at all, and feel thereupon some Uneasiness. If at any time she recommended an Affair to the Chancellor, the Superintendant, or any other Minister, she saw plainly that she was not obey'd

obey'd, and when she press'd for the Execution of it, they wou'd often answer her, *That they must speak to the Cardinal about it*; so that she was forc'd to let those she spoke freely to, see that she was not well pleas'd with the Person that govern'd, tho she carry'd it still as fair as ever to the Minister. Her Reason made her bear with his Weakness, but 'twas because her Wisdom wou'd not let her trouble her self at what displeas'd her, and Custom, which had a great prevalence over her, join'd with many more Considerations, made her unwilling to think of a Change, which (as it happen'd heretofore) might but have made her still less happy.

But as she had Understanding enough to discern the Faults of the Minister, she was likewise not ignorant of his good Qualities. One Day, as I was making some Complaints of the Cardinal, she did me the honour to say, that he was become so very ill-humour'd and covetous, that she did not know how one cou'd live with him for the future: She commanded me not to shew any Resentment I had against him; adding that in the Humour I was in, I might say something to displease him, that if the Cardinal shou'd be angry with me, it wou'd make the matter more difficult; and therefore she thought it better that I shou'd say nothing, but that she herself wou'd undertake to speak to him of my Affair; which she did to good Purpose. My Comfort was, that I had drawn the Queen into a Confidence with me, about the Conduct of him that I complain'd of: It was a kind of Revenge I had against him, to make a Declaration of his Faults

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Faults to one that had given him all the Favour, whereby he cou'd do almost what he wou'd; but these last Acts of his had effectually heal'd all the Wounds that his former daily Infidelity had made in the Queen's Breast.

As soon as his Niece was gone, the Queen began to shew a visible liking of his Conduct and Sentiments. The Satisfaction she receiv'd from thence flatter'd her Self-love, and finding how well he had recompens'd her Patience with the things she had reason to dislike in his Conduct, she seem'd to value herself upon the Choice she had before made of him: By this one Piece of Service she thought herself paid for the Constancy wherewith she had supported him against the People, the Parliament, the Princes, and his own particular Enemies. She herself did not love the Praises that belong'd to her, nor wou'd she bear those that were given her concerning the Peace and the Banishment of M^{lle} Mancini, tho she was the Person that brought them both about; but instead of receiving them (as they were her due) she remitted them all to the Minister. She was under a Necessity however to provide herself with a Strength sufficient to combat against him, even when she seem'd entirely subject to the Greatness he held of her; and by her Prudence and Conduct, which was mix'd with Force and Sweetness, she oblig'd him to execute her Will, and whatever natural Repugnancy the Cardinal might have to this, 'tis to be believ'd that he had need of all his Fidelity and Reason, to get the better in the Conflict, and that when these fail'd him, he

had still need to say oft to himself, that the Opposition which the Queen had declar'd against his Niece, was enough to be an invincible Obstacle to his Preferment, and that his Refusal to marry her to the King, which gain'd him a great deal of Glory, prevented a great deal of Shame and Misfortune, which usually attends a monstrous and too daring an Enterprize. But when he found himself under an Obligation to give the King a Wife, there was then a kind of Necessity, according to the wicked Maxims of the World, to divide their Marriage and Union by a Person related to him in Blood and Interest, that so he might have the sole Possession of the King's Heart: The greater therefore was his Commendation, that notwithstanding the Considerations of his Fortune, he wou'd in all Circumstances do what was his Duty. When therefore People came and told the Queen, that had it not been for her, the Cardinal wou'd not have been persuaded to send away his Niece from Court, and that 'twas Honour enough for him that he did what she desir'd him to do; her constant Answer was, that she was verily persuaded that that young Lady had displeas'd him in her Behaviour with the King; that he had sent her away with Joy, and that Fear had no Part in what he did; and as to what was said in private, that he was not much displeas'd at what the King had really desir'd, but wou'd never have thought on, had it not been for some sudden Gust of his Passion; she assur'd every body, that upon his own Account, as well as what he ow'd to the King, to her, and to the Kingdom, he wou'd never have consented

lented to such an Excess of Honour, whereof she was us'd to say with some Emotion, that the bare Thought of it was enough to make him criminal both before God and Men. Such was the Goodness and Discretion of the Queen when those that she rely'd on fail'd her, she was wont to excuse them, in consideration that no Man was perfect, and from the greatness of her Courage did not complain of them: When they serv'd her, she commended them, and when they did any worthy Actions by her Orders, she transfer'd all the Glory upon them.

After this great Action, the Cardinal left *Paris* on the 25th of *June*, and went to the Wood of *Vincennes*, there to pass a few Days away, and thence to proceed on his great Journey without returning any more. The King came thither from *Chantilli*, and the Queen went to see him: They both agreed to meet again very soon at *Fontainebleau*; the King return'd to his Solitude, and the Cardinal the same Day went back to *Paris* about some unexpected Affairs that had happen'd. The next Day, which was the 26th, he set out to go upon the Negotiation of Peace. The Queen, the same Day, went to *Pontoise* to make a small Tour of three Days, as well for Devotion as Pleasure, *i. e.* with a Design to visit the *Carmelites* of *Pontoise*, particularly the Mother *Joan*, a *Carmelite* of great Reputation, and Sister to the Chancellor. She likewise visited the Abbey of *St. Martin*, built by my Lord *Montague*, whom she lov'd and had a particular Respect for. Monsieur, the King's Brother, went to divert himself at his House at *St.*

St. Cloud, until the Queen (*his Mother*) return'd for he seldom or never was from her.

When the Queen return'd, she receiv'd a Letter from the King, that seem'd to affect her very sensibly. The same Day, as she went to visit the future Queen's Lodgings, I had the Honour to attend her; and being alone with her in the Hall of *Antiquities*, where after she had taken a View of all the Apartments of the *Louvre*, she came at last to sit and rest herself; she did me the honour to tell me what was in the King's Letter, I was on my Knees before her, and told her, that I had observ'd that Morning, when she had done reading it, that Tears came into her Eyes: She allow'd it might be so, and with the same Tenderness of Heart, did me the honour to say to me very earnestly, *The King is a good Man*; and repeating the same Words, she said to me again, *I do assure you, the King is a good Man*. The Queen then did me the honour to mention the Contents of that Letter, wherein one might see his Esteem for the Opposition she had made against him, and that he knew the Value of it; he therein acquainted her with the great Impatience he had to see her, and that he cou'd not be content without that Happiness; and that he had receiv'd a long Letter from the Cardinal, wherein he advis'd him to read, and to learn the great Mystery of a King, which he was resolv'd to do. The Cardinal, in this Point, had different Sentiments from those of former Ages; but as the King was now of Years to judge between Good and Evil, he perhaps had a Policy in it to appear virtuous, in order to gain his Esteem, because

because he imagin'd that the King's Indolence, which he took to be greater than it was, wou'd always have the better of his Reason. At that time I enter'd with the Queen into Matters of vast Importance; she told me of the great Uneasiness that the King's Love for Mad. Mancini had given her, what Pain that Engagement had cost him, and recounted to me what had pass'd upon that head between the King and the Cardinal: but she seem'd to me perswaded, that what that great Prince said, proceeded from an Excess of Sorrow for that Exile which he himself had occasion'd; it was to comfort her, that suffer'd for him, when he cou'd not satisfy her with Protestations that she shou'd always have the same Place in his Heart, and not to give her any Hopes of having any Place on his Throne. The Queen gave the Cardinal the Praise he deserv'd for having done his Duty on this Occasion. I then reminded her in what manner he had liv'd with her since the end of the War, which had not been with the same Zeal and Respect, and Fidelity and Duty, as when his Fortune depended absolutely on her Goodwill: I touch'd likewise upon his Faults, his too great Power, and the Abuse he had made of it with regard to her; whereupon the Queen enter'd into an Argument with me; and as I took the Liberty to say to her, that I cou'd never forgive the Cardinal's leaving her so little Authority, when she had given and preserv'd to him all that he enjoy'd; her Answer was, *He has a lawful Excuse, because he knows that I have no mind to have any.* For that Reason, I reply'd, That he shou'd be

more careful to see her obey'd and consider'd; whereupon she blush'd, and looking stedfastly upon me, did me the honour to say, *You are in the right*; and then changing the Discourse, she gave me to understand that these were Truths she felt too much, not to give her Pain in hearing; but knowing at the same time that what I said cou'd proceed from nothing but Sentiments of the truest Love and Fidelity, and a great Confidence I had in her Discretion, she took it well of me, and declar'd it with a great deal of Goodness.

Some Days after this, it was told me, that there were certain young People about the King that endeavour'd to ruin her, and impair the Sentiments of Tenderness that he had for her. I appriz'd her of what I knew, and she did me the honour to tell me in full Confidence of the King's Affection for her; that she believ'd nothing of it; and that she was perswaded none of them durst so much as mention her Name to him. She had reason for this Persuasion, so far as the King was concern'd; but not long after there happen'd a thing to her Disquiet, and what affected her very sensibly. Mad. of*** Mother-in-Law to the Count of**** acquainted her, that her Son-in-Law was enter'd into a Confidence with the King about the Affection that he still retain'd for Mad. Mancini. The Queen conceiving that the Remains of this Affection wou'd at least annoy the Quiet of the *Infanta*, inform'd the Cardinal of it, who was at *St. John de Luz*. He seem'd as much concern'd at it as the Queen, and did his Duty with a great deal of Zeal, Fidelity and Courage. He wrote

wrote to the King in strong Terms, and with purpose to insinuate a great Contempt of the Person that he still remember'd. The young Confident was, by the Queen's and the Minister's Advice, soon after banish'd; and tho the Cardinal merited infinite Praise for the Truths he wrote to his Master, yet I have heard him blam'd by those that interested themselves in this Nobleman's Disgrace. As few or none knew the Cause of it at the Council-board, those that are always raving at every Trifle, told monstrous Lyes about this Adventure; and I had reason on this, as well as many other Occasions, to know that Princes and their Ministers are often blam'd unjustly. The King, who suffer'd himself to be guided by Reason, was not ignorant that whatever he might feel for Mad. Mancini, those that went about to gain his Favour by cultivating his Passion, or rather his Amusement, were not solicitous for his Glory; and that his Mother and the Minister that told him the Truth, were the only Persons he was to credit. 'Twas this that engag'd him to follow their Counsels: He found that they were agreeable to his Interest, and without listening to the weak Movements of his Heart, which wou'd sometimes be carrying him into the Tenderness that he believ'd the young Lady had for him, he took the Part he shou'd have taken, and the Queen, who did me the honour to speak to me about it, seem'd very well pleas'd with his Conduct; and at the same time I knew how perfectly satisfy'd she was with the Cardinal. By what he sent to the King, he made it plainly appear, that he had a Dread to be

thought defective in point of Fidelity, either to him or her; he spoke very positively of his Niece's Folly, which he seem'd to disavow; and he did it then, no doubt, very truly, because, since her Absence, she had discover'd her Hatred of him more than ever. The Queen, while she pardon'd in her Minister the Condescension he shew'd at *Lions* to that young Woman's extravagant Passion, laugh'd at the Jealousy she discover'd to the King, and reproaching him with his liking the Princess *Margaret*, did comfort herself with thinking that at least this sudden Change of the King in favour of the *Infanta*, wou'd let all *Europe* see that he desir'd none for a Wife but such as by their Birth and Greatness were suitable to him; and that his chusing so soon after, a Person that desir'd to be prefer'd before any other, would make it impossible to be suspected, that he ever design'd, in good earnest, to recompense Mad. *Mancini's* passionate Instances so highly.

The King and the Queen, when they met at *Fontainbleau*, seem'd to have a good Understanding. The Queen was satisfy'd in having done her Duty, and the King was concern'd for having lost what he lov'd; but his Melancholy, encounter'd by Reason and Virtue, wore off by degrees, while he frequently diverted himself without thinking of it, and employ'd himself, as he did then, in the Care of having fine Liveries made against his Marriage.

Some time after, their Majesties left *Fontainbleau*, with an intent to join the Cardinal, and go and accomplish that great Work which

Europe

Europe had so long wish'd for, a Peace between the two Crowns, and the King's Marriage with the *Infanta*; the Consequence of which might produce great Events, considering the King of *Spain's* Misfortune, in having but two Princes, and they very sickly, as they had been ever since they were born. The Cardinal had sent his Nieces upon their Disgrace, to *Rochelle*, and *Brouage*; and when the Court in its way to *Bordeaux* came near the Place where they were, the King, as he pass'd by, desir'd to see Mad. *Mancini*. The Queen was not against it, but suffer'd her to come, I think, to *Cognac*. I have been told that this Interview was very tender, and not without some Tears on both sides. The King however continu'd his Journey, the Niece return'd to her Place of Exile; and here ends the Romance: for after this meeting things were chang'd, and the King found in the Greatness, the Beauty, and the Virtue of the *Infanta* of *Spain*, enough to comfort himself for the Loss of *Mary de Mancini*; but in Truth, there was a time (as the Cardinal told the Queen after the Peace) when the Count *** was in the King's Confidence, about the Passion he had for her, and that if that Intrigue (which he knew nothing of) had not been discover'd, the Intercourse of Letters, which he carry'd on, might have fortify'd the King so in this first Resolution, that they cou'd never have made him consent to the Marriage that they had then concluded; and I had a real Pleasure, when the Queen told me that my Intelligence was good.

The Interview of two of the greatest Kings in the World, that was to be upon the Frontier of their Realms, made me very desirous to take this Journey: But if Curiosity had not, at this time, been stronger in me than Idleness, yet the Goodness wherewith the Queen express'd her Desire for me to go, and her saying to the Duchess of *Navailles*, who was design'd to be Lady of Honour to the new Queen, that she wou'd do her a Pleasure in engaging me, made me accept of her Offer to take me with her. I resolv'd therefore on this great Journey, and accordingly we set forward, some time after the Court. I went along with the Duchess of *Navailles* to *Niort*, where she was Governess. Our Intention was to go very soon, and overtake the Queen, who was yet at *Bordeaux*; but the King's Marriage being put off till Spring, the Court (to employ themselves agreeably) went to spend the Winter in *Provence*. I, for my part, who love my Ease, wou'd not undergo the Fatigue of so long a Journey, and therefore I stay'd with my Friend, and there pass'd away almost seven Months.

The Marechal of *Grammont* was chose Ambassador extraordinary to the King of *Spain*, to go post, and demand the *Infanta* for the King. Many Persons follow'd him in this famous Expedition; my Brother was one of those that Curiosity carry'd thither, as well as others: and during my Stay at *Niort*, I receiv'd from him a Relation of what pass'd on this Occasion, which I think proper to place in this Work. It was written thus:

My

*My Brother's Letter, who was then Abbat of
Mont aux Malades, and Counsellor to the
Parliament of Rouen.*

Madrid, October 21, 1659.

“ THE Mareschal arriv'd at this Place on
“ Thursday the 16th of this Month, a-
“ bout Two a-Clock in the Afternoon, having
“ laid all Night at the Town of *Alcobendas*,
“ which is three little Leagues from hence.
“ Tho he was fond to let the People see
“ that he came post on a very swift Mule:
“ that Don *Louis de Haro* had given him,
“ and we every Day set out about Break
“ of Day; yet the Number of Horses and
“ Mules that he had in his Retinue, made
“ him make but short Journeys, and the
“ Heat of the Sun was so great, that it was
“ impossible to bear it in the Afternoon be-
“ tween the Rocks and the Desert Plains of
“ *Castile*, where there is nothing but a few
“ Olive-Trees which give no great Shade.
“ There was an Alcaid that all along ac-
“ company'd the Mareschal, and took care of
“ his Lodging. At *Burgos* the People re-
“ ceiv'd him with great Demonstrations of
“ Joy, as they did in other Places where he
“ pass'd. But I can say nothing of that, nei-
“ ther of the Pastime of the Bulls which they
“ entertain'd him with in that City, because I
“ did not arrive till Night, the same Day that
“ he stop'd here, having been oblig'd to take
“ the Route of *Pampeluna*.

“ At *Alcabendas*, the King sent a Lieutenant of his Guards, viz. the Introducer of Ambassadors, and one of his Major-domos, who brought him a very fine Present of *Spanish* Leather-Gloves, Sweet Cakes, Drinking Cups, and other Curiosities. Your Friend *Barrieres*, dress’d in the *Spanish* Fashion, and two or three *Spaniards* came hither to see him; they went away on Thursday Morning before it was Day, and we came by Dinner time within half a League of this Place. The King sent us the Postmaster’s Deputy, with some Couriers, eight Postillions lac’d with Tinsel, and a great many Post Horses, eight of which had the King’s Saddles and Bridles on, lac’d with Silver. The Mareschal order’d them to be given to as many as were on the List, that we had sent in. Every body had imbroider’d Clothes on, except the Abbe’s of *Feuquieres*, *Villiers*, *Castelane*, and my self who were only in black Velvet. Among others, the Mareschal, the Counts of *Quince*, *Thoulangeon*, *Guiche* and *Louvigni*; the Marquis of *Noirmoutier*, the Chevalier of *Charny*, * Son to the Duke of Orleans, *Lovison*, *Manicamp*, *Fremanteau*, Messieurs of *Beauvais*, *Flamanville*, and *Vessai*, Son to the President *Girou* of *Dijon*, who, by the change of his Profession and Name, seem’d willing to efface the Memory of his dead Father; *Courcelles* and *Magalotti*, Captains of the Guard, *Gontery*, who overtook

* Bastard Son.

of ANNE of AUSTRIA. 33

us at *Alcabendas*, and took *Maridat* also
 and *Bazin*, two Counsellors, one in the Par-
 liament of *Paris*, and the other in the *Cha-*
telet, who had Silver on their Clothes, be-
 sides the Mareschal's Gentlemen, who were
 all over Lace; all this Imbroidery, and the
 Feathers in our Hats, made a fine Appear-
 ance when we were on Horseback. We set
 forward a little sooner than we shou'd, and
 waited a great while at the Entrance of the
 City; which is not properly a City, because
 it has but Mud-Walls. All the Baggage
 stay'd behind at *Alcabendas*, because there
 was never a Servant to attend. At last,
 when they came and told us that it was
 time for us to enter, we went in on an
 Hand-gallop, and found the Streets full of
 People, and all lin'd with Coaches as we
 went along, which was a very great way;
 for they made us come in at a Place where
 we must of necessity go through the whole
 City. I can think of nothing so like this
 Entry as that which the *Polanders* made;
 for there were, in proportion, as many Peo-
 ple as in *Paris*: but what made it more
 beautiful was, their having Balconies to
 every Window, which were fill'd with all
 the Ladies of the City, and made a much
 finer Sight than the Scaffolds that are built
 in the Streets of *Paris*. All the way up to
 the Palace, we went sometimes a Gallop,
 and sometimes a Trot, with our Hats in our
 Hands most commonly; the eight Postillions
 before, the Mareschal immediately after,
 and all the rest in Confusion, but without

"crouding on one another; for the * *Calle*
 " *Major*, through which we pass'd, was very
 " large, and the Coaches stood in a Line.
 " In this order we proceeded amidst the
 " Shouts and Acclamations of the People, to
 " the King's Palace. Had our King himself
 " come in Person to demand the *Infanta*, he
 " cou'd not have had a greater Croud of Peo-
 " ple as he went along; for I cannot but be-
 " lieve that the other Parts of *Madrid* were
 " left quite empty.

" But to continue our Relation, we came
 " to the Square that is before the Palace,
 " which seem'd to be very fine and spacious;
 " it was full of Coaches, and all the Windows
 " in the Front of the Palace were crouded
 " with Men and Women. This side of the
 " House, as it stands between two Wings that
 " have Turrets at the Top, is very large.
 " There are about thirty one or thirty two
 " Windows in every Story; and each Window
 " has a Gallery, which is a great Ornament
 " to the Building, that is not so very beauti-
 " ful of itself. That which seems very extra-
 " ordinary is, that there is no Court where
 " the Coaches can enter, and those that come
 " there must go under a Vault at two Entries,
 " that will contain eight or ten Coaches a
 " piece. At this Place we dismounted, where
 " the *Admirante* of *Castile*, who is call'd
 " D. *Henry*, one of the House of the Kings
 " of *Castile*, and the gallantest Nobleman
 " about the Court, came to receive the Ma-
 " reschal. From this Vault we went up into a

* Great Street.

of ANNE of AUSTRIA. 35

" large Portico that is on one side of the
 " Palace. It is compos'd of two Squares of
 " Building, in the Form of a Cloister. In the
 " middle of it there is a large open Stair-
 " Case, that takes up the whole Space of one
 " of the sides of the House which is between
 " the two Courts. It has Light from the
 " Porticoes of the Cloysters for both be-
 " low and above, for it goes quite round
 " the House; this was as full as the rest
 " of the City: Every where there was a great
 " Noise made about our Feathers and Rib-
 " bons; and some Women, as we pass'd by,
 " made no scruple to snatch them off. As
 " we went up we pass'd some Halberdeers,
 " for there was no Regiment of Guards at the
 " Door, as in *France*. We enter'd first into
 " a great many Places that were wainscotted
 " and full of Pictures; for in most Places, Peo-
 " ple take away the Hangings of their Rooms
 " in Summer: thence we went thro some
 " Galleries and Halls that were full of Statues,
 " and came at last to the great Room where
 " the King was. The Fault that I had time
 " to take notice of before we enter'd in was,
 " that all these Places are very dark: There
 " are some that even have no Windows at all,
 " some but one little one, and others but Sky-
 " Lights; for Glass is very scarce in *Spain*,
 " and most of their Windows have none at all
 " in them.
 " It must be acknowledg'd, that the man-
 " ner in which the King of *France* gives Au-
 " dience, is the most contemptible thing in
 " the World, in comparison to that wherein
 " the Marechal was receiv'd. Every Place
 " wa-

" we pass'd thro, there were People standing
 " in a Line, and in the middle of the great
 " Room two Ranges of Benches cover'd with
 " Tapestry to keep the Croud off, and leave
 " the Passage free; and at the Top, another
 " Range in the Form of a Cross, where
 " the Persons of Quality were on each side;
 " but as they were all cloth'd alike and very
 " plain, the Grandees (who were about
 " twenty) appear'd no otherwise than the rest;
 " but that they were cover'd. The King
 " was at the upper end in a very plain Habit,
 " and much like the Pictures we have of him,
 " under a Canopy of rich Gold and Silver
 " Embroidery. As we went in, we divided
 " ourselves, and went some on one side, some
 " on another. As the Mareschal enter'd, the
 " King put his Hand to his Hat; as he drew
 " nearer him, he did not stir; and when the
 " Mareschal time after time put off his Hat,
 " and presented him his Letter, he still re-
 " main'd immovable, and never put his Hand
 " to his Hat again, but as the Mareschal went
 " away. A little before he withdrew, he gave
 " us that were upon the List the Sign, and
 " one by one we went up to salute the King
 " just in the manner as if we had been going
 " to make an Offering; and as we were
 " making our Honours, the Mareschal nam'd
 " every one of us.

" At the Left Hand of the Great Room,
 " there was a Door open, where were the
 " Queen and the two *Infanta's*: and hence
 " we went into the Queen's Apartment,
 " where we found likewise a great Croud;
 " for as they are seldom or never to be seen, a

" great:

" great many People took this Opportunity to
 " go in. The Queen and the two *Infanta's*
 " were in like manner at the upper end of the
 " Room under a large Canopy, and upon
 " a rais'd Floor, cover'd with a large Piece of
 " Tapestry. The Queen is not above twenty
 " four Years old, and the *Infanta* about
 " twenty; she is dress'd as she is painted,
 " and the Elder *Infanta* is a little bigger
 " than she is drawn. Without stretching
 " the Matter, the Queen and the *Infanta*
 " touch'd one another with their Fardingales,
 " and took up the whole Space of the Canopy
 " to that degree, that the young Princess
 " had but the very Edge. All that I have to
 " say of ours is, that she is much handsomer
 " than all the Pictures we have seen of her in
 " *France*. Her Eyes are blue, not too big,
 " but very sparkling and agreeable, and seem
 " full of Joy. She has a large Forehead, and
 " as her Dress shews it much, it makes her
 " Face seem rather too long, which doubtless
 " it wou'd not, if she wore any Hair down.
 " Her Nose is very pretty, and not too large,
 " her Mouth handsom, and of a lovely red;
 " her Skin perfectly fine, and very white;
 " her Cheeks too fat in the lower Part, and
 " she uses some red, but not so much as other
 " Ladies do. Her Hair is of a wonderful fine
 " white, but on that Day it was ty'd back
 " with a great many Ribbons: She is not
 " very large, but seems very well made for
 " her Size. The Mareschal continu'd some
 " time cover'd, while he spoke to the Queen;
 " but after he had satisfy'd the King his Master's
 " Honour, he was uncover'd, and continu'd
 " so,

" so, while he was saluting the *Infanta*, all
 " the time that he spoke to her. The Com-
 " pliment that he made to her was look'd up-
 " on as very gallant: He told her, *That the*
 " *Queen's Letter, and his Silence and Respect*
 " *wou'd better testify what was the Purport*
 " *of his coming, than all the Words that he*
 " *cou'd say.* All the Gentlemen there told
 " me that the Court was for enquiring how
 " *M. du Maine* was treated when he came
 " to demand our Queen, and for doing some-
 " thing more than ordinary for us. After
 " that we saluted the Queen and the two
 " *Infanta's*, i. e. made them a low Bow, kif-
 " sing, or pretending to kiss, their Robes.
 " What I took notice of as something extra-
 " ordinary was, that near the Ladies of the
 " Court, which were all either Maids or Wi-
 " dows, (for no marry'd Woman lodges there)
 " there stood a great many Men cover'd that
 " took not off their Hats when the Marshal
 " enter'd. I thought at first that they had
 " been all Grandees; but they told me, that
 " every Lady might, on these solemn Days,
 " entertain two Gallants, who might be co-
 " ver'd even before the Queen herself; and
 " the Reason they gave me for it was, that
 " they were suppos'd to be intent upon the
 " Sight of their Ladies, so astonish'd and in-
 " toxicated with their Charms, as not to have
 " any Eyes but for them, nor see any thing
 " that pass'd before them.

" As we went from thence, a Grandee of
 " *Spain*, whom I met and spoke *Spanish*
 " with, carry'd me in the Coach to the House
 " that was appointed for the Mareschal, where

" I,

" I, and most of those that came with him,
 " were lodged. There is some of the finest
 " Tapestry in the World; we were entertain'd
 " at the King's Expence, and every Morning
 " they came and offer'd us Chocolate, which
 " is the Regale of the Country.

" All the Grandees came to visit the Ma-
 " reschal, and we have already been at the
 " *Admirante* of *Castile's*, at the Duke of
 " *Alva's*, the Marquis of *Leganez's*, and the
 " Marquis of *Licbe's*, who is Son to Don
 " *Louis de Haro*, and has the finest Wife in
 " *Spain*, whom we saw on Saturday the 18th.

" All the Houses of these Noblemen are
 " very handsom, full of Pictures and Cabi-
 " nets; but they are much finer within than
 " they seem to be without. Next Day, some
 " of us went to see the Queen at Dinner, who
 " din'd alone; for the *Infanta* never dines
 " with her in publick. She has only five La-
 " dies to attend her, and some *Duegna's* cloth'd
 " in white. The *Menines* are those that have
 " no Veils, as the *Menins* are the Sons of
 " Grandees, or *Titulado's* that wait as Pages,
 " and wear neither Cloak nor Sword. She
 " was serv'd with great Respect, few People
 " are allow'd to go in, and it was a great Fa-
 " vour done us that we were suffer'd to be
 " near the Door. When any thing is brought
 " her to drink, one of the *Menins* brings the
 " Glass to one of the Ladies, who kneels
 " down, as does also the *Menin*. On the
 " other hand, there is another Lady on her
 " Knees that gives her the Napkin; and
 " over against her there is likewise another
 " that is much the same as a Lady of Honour
 " in

40 *Memoirs for the History*

“ in *France*. The Duke of *Aurante*, a Grandee
 “ of *Spain*, stood cover'd near one of the *Du-*
 “ *egna's*; but when the Queen rose, he un-
 “ cover'd and retir'd along with us.

“ On Sunday the 19th, we went with the
 “ Mareschal to hear Mass at the King's Chap-
 “ pel. The same Day the Nuncio, the Em-
 “ peror's Ambassador, and the King of *Pol-*
 “ *land*, came thither. They waited a little
 “ in an Anti-chamber, where the King soon
 “ after came, to go to Chappel. As he pass'd
 “ along, three Women kneel'd down, and
 “ gave him Petitions; he stop'd to hear
 “ what they had to say, and without stirring
 “ any more than a Statue, took their Papers.
 “ The Nuncio follow'd him, along with the
 “ Emperor's Ambassador and the Mareschal:
 “ He went behind a Damask Curtain, on the
 “ side of the Gospels: The Ambassadors of
 “ *Rome, Germany, France* and *Poland*, sat
 “ over against him, but a little lower on the
 “ side of the Epistles; and on the King's side,
 “ but a little lower than the Ambassadors, sat
 “ eight or ten Grandees all cover'd, as well
 “ as the Ambassadors. The Musick, which
 “ was very good, was at the farther end of an
 “ Organ-Loft, and below were three little
 “ Niches, where were the Queen, the two
 “ *Infanta's*, and the little Prince, who was
 “ but twenty three Months old. The King
 “ went out in the same Order, without saying
 “ any thing to the Mareschal, or any body;
 “ and we went to dine at the *Admirante's*,
 “ where was a very great Table, most of the
 “ Grandees of *Spain* and *Titulado's* sitting on
 “ one side, and we on the other; we reckon'd
 “ eighty

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“ eighty six Persons in the Company; but as
 “ for the Dishes, it was impossible to count
 “ them; some said five, and others seven or
 “ eight Hundred. When we rose from Table
 “ there was Vocal and Instrumental Musick;
 “ that is to say, Harps and Guitars: We had
 “ after that a Play, with the Entertainment
 “ of a Farce and Dancing, and Women with
 “ Castagnets: In fine, it was a complete Re-
 “ gale, and we did not return till Night.

“ On Monday the 20th, the Secretary of
 “ State, Don *Fernando Ruiz de Contreras*,
 “ brought the King's, Queen's, and *Infanta's*
 “ Letters to the Marechal; and from that
 “ time, which was but yesterday, we began to
 “ think we had got a Queen. A Cordelier
 “ that is in great repute for his Sanctity, and
 “ almost every Day at Court, came to see the
 “ Marechal, and told him that he had that
 “ Morning been talking with his Majesty, and
 “ made him laugh. To Day we are to
 “ have our Audience of Leave, and 'tis
 “ believ'd that there will be a Play acted at
 “ Court.

“ After I had wrote my Letter, we had an
 “ Audience of Leave, which was not in the
 “ same place, nor in publick. The King
 “ told the Marechal, *that he was very well*
 “ *pleas'd to see him on this Occasion, that he*
 “ *had often heard speak of him, and that he*
 “ *might assure himself of his Friendship.* I
 “ think he said to him likewise, *that he had*
 “ *always treated the Spaniards well, which*
 “ was a great deal for a Statue to say. When
 “ the Count of Guiche, and the Count of Lou-
 “ vigni,

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" *vigni*, the Mareschal's two Sons, saluted him,
 " he said * *Buen Moço*.

" From thence we went to take Leave of
 " the Queen and the *Infanta* : She was not,
 " as before, under a Canopy, but standing by
 " the Window, that all the Ladies might be
 " about her. The Mareschal press'd the *In-*
 " *fanta* very much to speak, but to all that
 " he cou'd say, she answer'd nothing; but
 " this, † *Diga a la Reyna, mi Señora, y my*
 " *Tia, que yo estare siempre rendida a sus*
 " *pies* : There were about a dozen Ladies,
 " and some of them handsom enough : But
 " the best thing of all, and what I wou'd
 " have you keep as a Secret, is the Comedy
 " that has just now been acted at the Palace
 " by the Light only of six great Wax Flam-
 " beaus that stood in Silver Candlesticks of
 " a prodigious Bigness indeed. On the two
 " sides of the great Room there were two
 " Niches, all lattic'd up; in the one were
 " the little Princes, and some People be-
 " longing to Court; and in the other, which
 " was directly against it, was the Mareschal.
 " Along these two sides there were only two
 " large Benches cover'd with *Persian Car-*
 " *pets*. The Ladies (to the Number of
 " about ten or twelve) came and sat down on
 " each side upon the Carpets, leaning their
 " Backs against Benches. Behind them, on
 " the side where the young Princes were,
 " but far below distinct from the Place where

* A fine Youth.

† Tell the Queen my Lady, and my Aunt, that I will al-
 ways be submissive at her Feet.

" the Actors were, and rather behind them,
 " were some Lords standing ; but on the side
 " where the Mareschal was there was but one
 " Grandee. The rest of us *French* Men stood
 " behind the Bench where the Ladies lean'd.
 " The King, the Queen, and the *Infanta*
 " came in, following one of these Ladies, who
 " carry'd a Flambeaux. As he enter'd, he put
 " off his Hat to all the Ladies, and then sat
 " him down by a Screen, with the Queen
 " at his Left-Hand, and the *Infanta* at the
 " Queen's. All the time of the Play (except
 " one Word that he spoke to the Queen) he
 " neither mov'd Head, Hand or Foot ; he
 " only sometimes turn'd his Eyes round him,
 " and had no body near him but a Dwarf. As
 " they went out from the Play the Ladies all
 " rose, and presently after came from each
 " side one by one, and met in the middle
 " like so many Canons leaving their Stalls
 " when Service is done. They took one ano-
 " ther by the Hand, made their Honours that
 " lasted about a Quarter of an Hour, and
 " then went out one after another ; the King
 " all this while being uncover'd. At last
 " he himself rose, and made a moderate Bow
 " to the Queen ; the Queen made a Curtsey
 " to the *Infanta*, and taking her by the
 " Hand, as I thought, they both went out
 " together. This is all that I had to add to
 " my Account, only that the King has sent
 " the Mareschal this Night a String of Dia-
 " monds that are very fine, and what we va-
 " lue at twenty thousand Crowns, and more."

While

While I stay'd at *Niort*, I receiv'd another Letter from my Brother, informing me of the Death of the Second Prince of *Spain*, which made the Mareschal of *Grammont* fear that his Journey wou'd not end in the manner it began; but the King's ill Circumstances made him keep his word, and purchase Peace at the Price of the *Infanta*.

During the King's Stay in *Provence*, and while he was at *Marseilles*, the Duke of *Orleans*, who was then at *Blois*, died in a few Days. That Prince deserv'd to be lamented, both for his own good Qualities, and his being the Son of *Henry the Great*, whose Memory ought always to be dear to the *French*. There is reason to believe that his Death was precious in the Sight of God, being preceded by a Life truly Pious and Christian, and accompany'd with a sincere Contrition for his Sins. Together with these Virtues he had, according to the Example of his Brother the late King, a great firmness of Soul, and look'd upon Death without Fear or Weakness. The Repose that he enjoy'd from the time of his Retreat, did not at all contribute to his Health; on the contrary, he was grown very old and much chang'd: Heretofore he had been the chief of all the Factions and Cabals that in his time had been carry'd on under his Name against Cardinal *Richlieu*. That Minister was often like to have been destroy'd by his means; but the Prince's Good-nature always hinder'd him from going to Extremities, because he was tender-hearted, and wou'd never consent to shed his Enemies Blood, or do any violent Act. His Court was formerly fill'd with several

veral Lords of the Realm, who were all willing to have the Honour of depending on him as the presumptive Heir of the Crown; and the low Condition whereunto his Brother the late King was reduc'd, rais'd him in their Esteem: but all this Glory was now at an end. That which he had during the Regency, and whereof I have made large and ample Recital, was now in like manner vanish'd, and nothing remain'd but the sad Remembrance of the Vanity of his Thoughts, and the Fruitlessness of his Actions. After the ill Success of his unhappy Enterprizes, he liv'd in such a State of Disgrace as ranks Men among the Number of the Dead, even before they are so; but 'tis to be presum'd he liv'd the Life of the Just, and that his Repentance and Charities in the Solitude of *Blois* procur'd him a Place in Eternity of much more value than all the worldly Grandeur wherewith he saw himself surrounded.

The King and the Queen mix'd with the Concern they had for his Death, the remembrance of things that were pass'd, which was the reason that their Mourning was not so excessive. Mademoiselle was very much troubled; for the Loss of such a Father cou'd not but afflict her; but then the Law-Suit that she had had with him, and the little care he took to see her well marry'd, somewhat abated her Sorrow; and the Constancy wherewith she bore this Misfortune, was more the effect of her Indifference than her Virtue. Mademoiselle saw her Loss, and 'tis likely she was very sensible of it; but it was this Princess's Fate, to be so little accounted of, that her Tears pass'd for
nothing

nothing likewise. Madameiselle's of *Orleans*, *Alanson*, and *Valois*, his other Daughters, were so weary with being at *Blois*, and being but young, so very desirous to go to *Paris*, that they easily comforted themselves, no doubt, to see an end put to their Exile; the Death of this Prince was apparently the greatest Misfortune that cou'd befall them. He himself seem'd to be sensible of it; for in his last Moments, as he cast his Eyes upon his Family, he quoted in *Latin* to a Father of the Oratory, that assisted at his Death, a Passage of Scripture that represented their Desolation.

Much about the same time the Prince of *Conde* return'd into *France*, and found the King still in the same Province, staying till it was time to go and receive the *Infanta* from the Hands of the King of *Spain* her Father, who was to bring her to him. I was not then at Court, and can therefore say nothing in particular of that Interview; but the two Ministers who were on the Frontier, were a long while engag'd in making that Prince's Peace, The King's Minister was for treating him as an Enemy that had made War against the King, and unwilling that the Protection of Strangers shou'd give him all the Advantages that he demanded. They, on the contrary, were for supporting him to the last, and Don *Louis de Haro* wou'd never give into that Point. The Protection of the King of *Spain* was at last so favourable to him, that by means of it he procur'd his Peace upon as good Terms as he cou'd wish, and thereupon return'd with great Honour to throw himself at the King's Feet;

Feet; who, as I was afterwards told, receiv'd him with a great deal of Sweetness and Gravity. The Prince saw him so great a Man in every thing, that from the Moment he approach'd him, he perceiv'd that it was high time for him to humble himself. The Lustre of the King's Youth, and that great and masterly Genius that God had given him, and began now to discover itself in all his outward Deportments, perswaded the Prince of Condé that whatever remain'd of the former Reign was now going to be abolish'd; and having learnt Wisdom and Moderation by his own Experience, he made it appear both by his Thoughts and Actions, that he had taken up another Mind, and enter'd into new Resolutions.

1660. After we had spent the Winter at *Niort*, which by reason of the extreme coldness of the Place, was not so well to live in; the Duchess of *Navailles* and I left that little Town as soon as Easter was pass'd, and came to *Benac*, one of the Duke of *Navailles's* Houses, that is situated at the Foot of the *Pirenees*. Here we waited for the Return of the Court that was to come this way out of *Provence*, and go (as the two Kings design'd) to the Frontier to conclude the Peace.

Benac is situated on a rising Ground, at the Foot of some little Hills, that form themselves afterwards into very large ones: It is not very far from the Plain of *Bigorre*, and has in its Prospect the *Pirenees*, where one may see the Snow on the Top of the Hills out of the Windows of the Castle. It is not however without all the Advantages of a flat Country; for from *Benac*, as far as *Bigorre*, there is a very delightful

delightful Valley. There begin the steep Hills, whether you take the way of the Vales that run along these frightful Mountains, or the high Road that leads to *Lourdes*, which is a strong Place about a League from *Benac*, and seems to have been plac'd on the side of *France*, to hinder the Entrance and Incursions of the *Spaniards*, in case they shou'd have the boldness to invade us there.

The Duke of *Navailles* has a great Estate in this Country, he is Lord of *Lavedan*, which contains seven Valleys that run along the Bottom of the Mountains, and are full of Castles and Villages. Here I had a good Opportunity, when we went to visit these Estates, to satisfy the Curiosity I had to see these Countries, which Nature has form'd in a Place, as it were, different from the rest. I always thought that the *Pirenees* were desert and uncultivated Mountains, where there cou'd be no Beauty but what their hideous Solitude, and their prodigious Height together cou'd give them; but I was amaz'd to see how the *Agreeable* and *Horrible* made there a wonderful Mixture of all the different Beauties of Nature. On the Top of these high and vast Mountains, there are very beautiful Valleys at proper Spaces, which, tho they are not large enough to give the Eye the Pleasure of a long Prospect, have nevertheless this Advantage, that they bound it in its View with a thousand agreeable Objects: For besides the Beauty of the Meadows, there may be seen Corn, Vines, Flax, and all other things necessary for Life. On one hand you may see a Mountain almost as high as the Heavens, cover'd with Snow at the Top, and

half

half part furrounded with the Clouds, and on the other, some that are not so high, and planted just in the same manner as the Hills about *Paris*; and others, that are as high, all cover'd over to a very little Space, with green Grass Pasture and good Corn, as well as those that are lower. Among these too, there are some that are uncultivated, and have noother Ornament than frightful Rocks, which, by a certain Horror they inspire into the Mind, give us a strong admiration of the Power of Him that is the Creator of all things. From these Mountains, and particularly from such as are most wild and desert, do several Torrents arise, which falling high from the Rocks, and running among the black Stones (such as the Rocks are made of) make admirable Cascades; for their Noise is both astonishing and agreeable at the same time. In all these Valleys, there are beautiful Villages and Towns well inhabited: The Churches there are well serv'd. There are many Priests; and yet the People are very wicked, for the Rusticity of the Climate makes them cruel; but they are however devout in their Way, and on every Road one meets with several Chappels and Images of our Lady: Their Language is a corrupt *Spanish*, hard to be understood. The Country People are large, look well, and are well cloth'd: They went formerly arm'd with Pistols and Daggers, but *M. de Tharbe*, their Bishop, has now forbid them to wear any, because they had frequent Skirmishes, in which they often kill'd one another.

In this Journey that we took to see the Beauties of the Country, we came to dine at *Foncala*, a pleasant Town that depends upon the Lordship of *Lavedan*. Here we had good Meat, and particularly some of the best Butter in the World: Their Houses are fine. They have a Stone something of the Nature of Marble: They say 'tis Marble, but 'tis very rough, however it looks well, and makes their Houses very neat, which are wainscotted within, and slated without; for these wild Mountains have several Mines of Slate, which they often dig from the black Rocks, and this makes them look so very frightful. From *Foncala*, we went to lie all Night at *Bossein*, which is an old Castle belonging to the Duke of *Navailles*, and built on the Top of a little Mountain. I am of Opinion that it was formerly the private Abode of *Urgande* the Fairy. It is an inaccessible Rock, forming itself on high into a large Square Terras that serves for a Court to the Castle; and hence one may see one of the finest and most fruitful Plains in the whole Country, half a League broad, and above a League long. The *Gave* passes along this Plain, which rising from the Root of the Mountains, runs with great Rapidity through the middle of it. It has on each side the highest Mountains in the Place, one of which being more upright and steeper than ordinary, is a little parate from the rest; they call it the *Southern Peak*, and 'tis no farther from the Castle Windows than *Pont-neuf* is from the *Louvre*. At the same View one sees six large Towns which

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which are below or under the first rising of the Mountains; in one of which, there is an Abbey of some Consideration, well endow'd, and well built, where the Religious lead an exemplary Life; it is called *Saint Saurin*. The *Gave*, which washes the Meadows of this Plain, makes them very beautiful every where: There are Orchards well planted, which, as we are told, bear excellent Fruit. The Entrance of this Valley might be stop'd by an Iron Chain, as was formerly the famous *Vega of Granada*; for the Passage thro the Mountains is very strait. Within the Mountains there are likewise three Passages or Ways leading into *Spain*, that might easily be stop'd; nor is it above four Leagues of Land from thence to *Arragon*.

After we had satisfy'd our Curiosity in taking a Survey of the Beauty of the *Pirenees*, we left *Benac* on the 2d of *May* to go to *Bayonne*, where the Court was already arriv'd. We pass'd by *Pau*, which I had a great desire to see; and the Respect I bore for the Memory of *Henry the Great* made me visit the Castle with Care, and particularly the Chamber where he was born.

We came to *Bayonne* on the 5th; the Queen had the Goodness to receive us with some Joy, and with great Wonder to see me so far out of my own Country, and that I had got so much the better of my Idleness. The Court did not stay there long; it soon after remov'd to *St. John de Luz*, where we arriv'd on the eighth of *May*.

All the Talk there was about the Beauty of the Place design'd for the Interview of the two Kings, which was called *The Place of Conference*. The Year before, the Cardinal and Don *Louis de Haro* had held their Conference there about the Peace, and there disputed and confirm'd the Articles of it. Since that time, there was a very beautiful Building erected upon this little Island, with two equal Galleries, one of which had an Outlet towards *France*, and the other towards *Spain*; and on each side both met in a great Room, where the two Ministers us'd to be; but now this Place being design'd to receive two of the greatest Kings of *Europe*, it was enlarg'd and beautify'd, and drew the Curiosity of both Nations. Monsieur and Mademoiselle went thither to see it: I had the Honour to be of their Train, and truly the Building was one of the most agreeable things in the World.

The King of *Spain* was already come to *St. Sebastian*, the *French* went all thither to see him at Dinner; every one said that his Court was solitary, but that the *Infanta* was pretty. The King was very inquisitive of those that came from thence, and the Questions which the Queen ask'd about the same Subject, were made no Secret.

Those that came from thence to *St. John de Luz* to see our Court, were well receiv'd, as the *French* were kindly treated by them; but as the Number of our Men was more, and their Throng more pressing, there were some Days wherein the King of *Spain*, whom his very *Grandeess* durst not come near, when he

is at Dinner, had like to have been stifled, and his Table was near thrown down by their crowding. In the meantime the King's Marriage went on, and, altho the Prophets threaten'd it, and foretold it wou'd never be, it seem'd now in a fair way of being accomplish'd in a few Days. The King sent often over to enquire about the *Infanta's* Health; she always answer'd little to the King's Compliments, but sent very tender things to the Queen her Aunt.

The Kings, in the mean time, busy'd themselves in settling the Confiner of their Kingdoms, wherein there happen'd some Difference on account of certain Places; which, till then, were not in being.

The Bishop of **Frejus* told me, that when he went to the King of *Spain's* at St. *Sebastian* to be a Witness of the Marriage on the King's Part, he carry'd a Letter from the King to the *Infanta*, wrote in such a manner as if she had already consented; but he found not Matters in that readiness, for the King of *Spain* delay'd to do it until some Differences, not sufficiently adjusted in the Treaty of Peace, were determin'd: and for this Reason the Bishop of *Frejus* durst not present the Letter to the Person it was wrote to. He told the King of *Spain* that he had one, and desir'd passionately to give it to the *Infanta*; but his Answer was, that he might keep it a little, for

* An Italian, a Creature of the Cardinal's that understood the *Spanish* Tongue.

it was not yet time to give it: But the Bishop being willing at least to shew it to the *Infanta*, to make her sensible of the King's Impatience, carry'd it hid in his Hand on the Day that he had his Audience of her; and while he was making the Compliments from the King and the Queen her Aunt, he said, * *Pero, Sennoſa, tengo de dezirle un Secreto*: At the Word *Secreto*, she caſt her Eyes ſlily about her to ſee whether her † *Camarera mayor* and her *Duennas* heard him, and then let him ſpeak on. He continu'd his Diſcourſe, and ſhewing her the Letter, ſaid, †† *Qu'el Rey ſeu Sennoſa, imaginando ſer mas diaboſo de lo que era; le avia eſcrito eſta Carta; pero quel Rey ſu Padre le avia mandado de no preſentar ſela*. She answer'd him ſoftly, ** *Yo no puedo recibir la ſin licencia del Rey mi Padre; pero a me dicho que preſto ſe acabara todo*. When at any time ſhe was preſs'd to return ſome Answer to the King, ſhe was wont to ſay, † *Lo que digo per la Reina mi Tia, ſe puede entender por el Rey*. The Count of *St. Agnan* paid her a Viſit two Days before ſhe ſet out to be marry'd to the King at *Fontarabia*, as from the King and Queen; and after ſhe had made her Compliment to the Queen her

* But, Madam, I have a Secret to tell you.

† Her Lady of Honour, and her Women.

†† That the King his Maſter, thinking himſelf more happy than he was, had wrote that Letter to her; but that the King her Father had commanded him not to give it her.

** I cannot receive it without the Permiſſion of the King, my Father; but he has told me that all things ſhall be ſpeedily ſuſtained.

† What I ſay to the Queen my Aunt, may be ſignify'd to the King.

Aunt,

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Aunt, of her own accord she said, *Y al Rey tambien*, and to the King also.

This same Bishop of *Frejus* was before sent from *Avignon* to the King of *Spain*, and carry'd with him a Letter to the *Infanta*, wherein the Queen had the Pleasure to call her the first time by the Name of Daughter. I found that Letter afterwards among the young Queen's Papers; and it having thus fallen into my Hands, I was willing to write it out and place it here, not doubting but it wou'd be precious to those that reverence the Memory of the great Princess that wrote it, or bear any Part in the Joy she then had. I copy'd it from the Original, and it is thus :

SEÑORA,

“ **H**IJA y Sobrina mia, bien creera facil-
 “ mente V. Magestad con quanto gusto y
 “ Satisfacion la escribo, llamandola con el
 “ nombre que deseado darle toda mi vida, lo
 “ que Dios per su infinita bondad me a con-
 “ cedido: Y a no me queda mas que desear
 “ fino de ver llegar el dichoso dia, que yo
 “ harto he deseado y deseo, y de poder de-
 “ sir a V. Magd. de otra manera que por es-
 “ crito, el amor mui tierno con que la quiero
 “ y quere, toda mi vida. No dire mas por
 “ esta Carta: remitome a lo que el Obispo de
 “ Frejus dira a V. M. de mi parte, y de la de
 “ otra Persona que no quiero nonbrar. Supli-
 “ co a nuestro Senor que me la guarde Hija
 “ mia como deseo, que no sero poco.

En *Avignon*, a 24. de
 Marso, MDCLX.

Buena Madre y Tia
 de V. Magd.

D 4

ANNA.

Translated thus.

MADAM,

MY Daughter, and my Niece! Your Majesty will easily believe, with what Joy and Satisfaction it is that I write to you, and give you a Name that I have desir'd to do all my Life long. God, of his infinite Goodness, has granted me this Favour; nor have I any thing more to desire but to see that happy Day, (which I have so much long'd, and do still long for) when I may tell your Majesty, in another manner than by writing, how much Love and Tenderneſs I have for you. I shall say no more at present, but refer you to what the Bishop of Frejus has to say for me, and for another Person that I will not name. I beg of our Lord, my dear Daughter, that he would keep you for me, as I desire, which will be no small Comfort to

Your MAJESTY'S Loving

Avignon, March

Mother and Aunt,

24, 1660.

ANNE.

At that time, while we continued at St. John de Luz, we receiv'd News that was very agreeable to the King and Queen, of the King of England's Restoration to his Dominions. Monk had done him great Service, and

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and brought over the Parliament and Army to him. That People who naturally abhor Tyranny, long'd for the lawful Government of their King; so that the Parliament sent over to him, being then in *Flanders*, to desire him to come over into his own Country, and assur'd him that for the time to come they would by their Repentance and Fidelity make amends for their Rebellion.

The same Day the King went to see the Place of Conference which the Cardinal, and Don *Louis de Haro* every Day continu'd to finish the Regulation of the Confines of the two Kingdoms; he had a mind to go himself and see where it wou'd be proper to place his Troops on the Day of Interview between the Queen and the *Infanta*, when she shou'd be Queen, and where he himself intended to see her. Many Grandees of *Spain*, and particularly the Marquis *de Liche*, Son to Don *Louis de Haro*, were at the Place, who admir'd the King, and by the extraordinary Praise they gave him, express'd their Delight in him. There were great Delays on the part of *Spain* about certain Villages that they demanded of *France*; which disgusted both the Kings, and made the two Courts uneasy: On both sides, there was murmuring, and at *St. John de Luz* it was whisper'd about that the Match wou'd be broke off. It appear'd however by what happen'd at *Lions*, that God had appointed it, and that it was determin'd by a divine Decree, that we shou'd have that illustrious Prince for our Queen. The Negotiations of the Ministers ended at last very ho-

nourably on our King's side; for Cardinal *Marino* being steady to his Point, the King of *Spain* sent word that he wou'd make him his Arbitrator, and desir'd him to settle this Dispute according to what he thought just. *Le Tellier* brought this News to the King and Queen on the Festival of the holy Sacrament, when they were both at high Mass in the Parish Church of *St. John de Luz*. The whole Court was glad of it, for every one was now desirous to return to *Paris*; and as the Matter in dispute was of no great Consequence, most People thought that this Minister had found out an Expedient to give up with honour some part of the King of *Spain's* Pretensions. There was a Conference between the two Ministers upon this Subject; some Journeys to and fro that inferior Agents were sent upon, and then all Matters were accommodated. The Division was made well enough for the King's Advantage; another Interview of the prime Ministers settled that, and then was the Day set for the Marriage; and the Interviews of the King of *Spain*, the Queen, and the *Infanta*, as well as that of the two Kings, were all agreed on.

On *Wednesday* the 2d of *June*, the King of *Spain* left *St. Sebastian*, and went to *Fontarabia*, to be ready at the Marriage that was to be celebrated next Day. Don *Louis de Haro*, Minister of *Spain*, was to espouse the *Infanta* in the Name of the King, and the Bishop of *Frejus* was to be Witness on the King's behalf. I had a great mind to go and see this Ceremony, and the Court of *Spain*; nor was

I the only Person that had this Curiosity, for a great many more, both Men and Women, were there. Mademoiselle was for going incognito, or what they call in *Spanish* * *deenboso*: She did me the honour to offer to take me with her; but as I was engag'd in other Company, I cou'd not do that; but I met her at *Fontarabia*. When we were come to the Banks of *Andaye*, we found there some Boats, which the King of *Spain*, knowing that the Ladies must come that way, had sent thither. The Boats were on the outside cover'd with very glittering Stuff, and hung within with Crimson Damask, with Silver and Gold Fringe, and Curtains of the same. The King of *Spain's* Coaches stay'd for us on the other side of the River under the Walls of *Fontarabia*; and taking us up at our Landing, carry'd us to *Pimentel's* House, an Acquaintance of the † Company I was with, where we had presently brought us Chocolate and Biskets, which is the Regale of *Spain*. The House stands in the Square, and while we were taking this little Refreshment, I employ'd myself in looking at every thing that was to be seen; for I am naturally curious, and love to take notice of what I knew not before. What I first observ'd was, a great many of the King's Liveries, and some of the *Grandeës*, that were well enough; but without Gold, which was no Advantage to them. We saw some *Grandeës* pass by, that besides the Attendance of Footmen, had some of the King's

* Hid.

† I was with the Ladies, Colbert, and de Lionne.

Pages likewise following them. They told us that several of them had them, and that the King maintain'd them for them, some more, some fewer, according to their Rank and Dignity. From this Place we were carry'd to the Church, where we found some Guards drawn up on each side, but without any thing to do ; for there are not People enough about this Court to make a Croud : Those that are there are but few in Number. But we must take notice likewise, that the King defrays their Charges, and that in his Journeys none follow his Person without his Orders : by this means the Court has not so much Lustre and Noise ; but still in itself it is grand enough. In *France* I cou'd never see the least Ceremony with the ease that I did this ; and, to speak truth, I was amaz'd to see in that Place, and on so remarkable a Day, so few People stirring. We were carry'd into the Quire on the side of the Steps of the great Altar, whence we cou'd see the King's Curtain ; that is to say, the Place where he goes to hear Mass, which is almost like a Bed, and has Curtains all round it, only that which is just before him, is open a little that he may hear Mass ; for ordinarily there is no seeing him at all. This Curtain was on the Right Hand of the Quire, which was spread with a large *Turky* Carpet : On the side of the Curtain there was a large Bench cover'd likewise with a Carpet, which from the Corner of the Curtain was carry'd lower, and there made a square for the Grandees of *Spain*. Mademoiselle came a little later, and mix'd among the rest of us ; but as it was

was

was known that she was to come, several Persons, and even some of the Priests that were waiting to do their Office, enquir'd of me where she was. These Priests began to discourse with me, I spoke *Spanisk*, and they answer'd me in Terms, I dare say, too gallant for Priests; but that is owing to the Corruption of the Country. About half an Hour, or three Quarters of an Hour after, the King of *Spain* came, leading the *Infanta* in his Left Hand: They were follow'd with no great Croud of People, nor was there any mighty Bustle; for the King of *Spain* has not many Guards, and no Drums and Trumpets attending him as our King has. They both sat themselves down within this Curtain, and the *Infanta* was on his Left Hand. From the Moment that I saw this Princess, she seem'd to me to be very pretty, and the King had the Looks of a very good-natur'd Man. The Curtain, on the side we were on, was left open to favour Mademoiselle as we suppos'd, whom the King often look'd at. The Grandees took their Places on the Bench provided for them. Don *Louis* sat uppermost, and even touch'd the Curtain, then the Duke of *Medina de las Torres*, the Marquis of *Mondejar*, the Marquis of *Liche*, and the rest. Soon after this, the Mass began, and was said very low without any Ceremony by the Bishop of *Pampeluna*. The Ornaments of the Church, as we all took notice, were very mean.

Not to reckon the great Number of the *French* that fill'd the body of the Church, our great Lords got to the upper end of the Quire, and

and sat down on the Steps that go up to the great Altar; on the side of which, sat the Bishop of *Frejus*, and the Bishop of *Cominges*, who is of the House of *Choiseul*. The rest of our Ladies were on the other side of the Curtain, over against the King and the *Infanta*, kneeling on a Carpet that was spread on the Floor. As soon as Mass was said, the Bishop of *Pampeluna*, in his Pontifical Habit, came near to the Place where the King and the *Infanta* were; Don *Louis*, and the Bishop of *Frejus* did the same, and the *Infanta* advancing a little, while our King's Procuration was read, the Bishop began the Office and marry'd them. When she came to say the Words, *I will*, so considerable to all, and so remarkable in Persons of her high Birth, she made a low Reverence to her Father, and then pronounc'd them modestly: The second time she spoke them a little higher, and when the Ceremony was over, she threw herself upon her Knees before the King her Father, who embrac'd her tenderly, and rais'd her up with Tears in his Eyes, which made us all ready to cry.

The *Infanta* Queen was little, but very well shap'd: What we admir'd in her was, the incomparable Fairness of her Complexion, and of her whole Person throughout. Her Blue Eyes look'd beautiful, and charm'd us with their Sweetness and Sprightliness; we prais'd the Make of her Mouth, and her Lips, which were a little too thick, but very red. The Cast of her Face was long, but being round at the lower end of it, it pleas'd us; and her

her Cheeks, which were a little too full, but very beautiful, had their Share of our Commendation: Her Hair was as bright as Silver, which entirely agreed with the fairness of her Face. To speak the Truth, had her Stature been a little taller, and her Teeth a little better, she had deserv'd a Place among the most beautiful Women in *Europe*; and I found that she was very much like the Description that my Brother had given us of her. She had a fine-made Neck, tho' a little too fat: but then her Dress was horrible. Fashion and Custom did not deceive our Eyes; and, as for my part, whether I am in *France*, or elsewhere, I think I can easily discern what is right, and what is wrong in Dress. As I thought then, that the *French* Habit was very ridiculous, with their large Boot Hose that they wear on their Legs, and cou'd not but dislike their little Doublets, which cover'd neither their Body nor their Breasts; so the Habit and the Head-dresses of the *Spanish* Women gave me Pain to see them. They have nothing tight about their Body, and their Neck is all bare behind. Except the *Infanta*, I saw not one Woman of all her Attendance but what was brown and lean, and consequently it turn'd my Stomach to see their Shoulders so very naked; their strait Sleeves were slash'd, and look'd not well. They had not much Linen seen; their Laces were very mean: Their Hanging sleeves were not becoming, and their Pardingal was a monstrous kind of a Machine, half round: for they look'd as if they had had so many Hoops of a Cask sew'd under their Petticoats; except

except that their Hoops are round, and their Pardingals plaited before and behind; which makes them fuller on each side; so that when they walk, this Machine rises and falls, and makes, in short, a very odd Figure.

Their most agreeable Head-Dress was large, with false Hair; but their Foreheads being too bare, without any Curls at all, did not look well. Others of them had their Hair ty'd behind, and here and there Tresses wove with Ribbons, which in *Spain* are very coarse; but this Dress, as it was more simple and natural, was likewise more becoming. The *Infanta* Queen had a large Head-dress on the Day she was marry'd; her Clothes were white, but of a mean Stuff enough, sprig'd with Tinsel; for Silver is forbidden in *Spain*. She had some Jewels set in a great deal of Gold; her fine Hair was hid under a sort of white Cap that went round her Head, and rather disfigur'd than adorn'd her: Yet, for all her Habit, we cou'd perceive her Beauty, which was an infallible Token of its Greatness.

We went from thence to see them at Dinner, and were very eager to have a nearer sight of them. When she came out of her Room, into that where the Table was spread, we were invited to go and kiss her Hand. The Duchess of *Ufez*, that was of our Company, was the first, then *Madam de Lionne*, and I (as I chanc'd to be near her) and then the rest did the same. She then sat down at the Table, and was attended by her Ladies and *Menins*. I spoke *Spanish* when I saluted her, and so she engag'd with me, and did me the honour

to answer all the Questions that I ask'd her. Her own Hair was not at all seen, she had then false Hair on, what they call *Monos*; I therefore desir'd to see her own Hair, which she shew'd me; and I had reason enough to be satisfy'd of its Beauty. While she was at Table, she commanded me to come near, and to talk to her. I went behind her Chair; and as all the Ladies out of respect to her, did not approach her, I told her, that since she was now become our Queen, she must accustom herself to bear with our Importunities. At that time Mademoiselle was gone to see the King at Dinner, and just coming in then, she lean'd upon me, and I was their Interpreter. Our new Queen knowing that it was she, who had no mind to be discover'd, smil'd sometimes at her, and answer'd always agreeably to whatever she said. When the Princess rose from Table, she advanc'd to her, and making an Offer to embrace her, said, * *Un abraço te quero dar a escondida*. She afterwards call'd her into the Room, where were two easy Stools; she order'd one to be brought her, and treated her with Respect enough; but nevertheless seeming all the while as if she did not know her. In this, she follow'd the Orders of the King her Father, who directed her to use her so; for the Moment she return'd to her Room, and before she call'd the Princess in to her, she sent to him to know in what manner she was to treat her. If Mademoiselle had any

* I will embrace you in private.

Remembrance of the ardent Desires she once had for the Crown of *France*, she might then have felt some Grief and Uneasiness; but as her Mind was not much accusom'd to Reflection, and Time that effaces all things, had chang'd her Sentiments, she return'd from *Pontarabia* well enough contented; and we, for our parts, that had seen the Queen, thought we had reason to return God Thanks for giving us such an one; for she was very much like the Queen her Aunt, only their Complexions were different. The Court of *Spain* look'd to be but thin in comparison with the vast Number of Persons of Quality that both obscur'd and made up the King's Retinue; for the little that I saw of it, however, it seem'd to me magnificent enough. The Grantees indeed had not their Clothes embroider'd like the *French*, but on their plain and simple Suits they had all fine Jewels, that distinguish'd them from the Commonalty; and made them appear very well. Their Habit was graceful enough, only their Breeches were as much too strait, as those of the *French* were too wide.

After we had marry'd our new Queen, and made our Court to her, *Pimentel* gave us a good Dinner. The rest of the Company was treated by Don *Louis*; and when we had well refresh'd ourselves, we return'd all to St. *John de Luz*, to acquaint the Queen that we had found her Niece just such a one as she desir'd; we drew her Picture as well as we cou'd, and our Account made her very impatient to see her.

The

of ANNE of AUSTRIA. 67

The next Day the Queen was to go and satisfy her Desire, being attended only by one Lady of Honour, as it was agreed between the King and herself, the King her Brother, and the Queen her Niece, that they might with more quiet enjoy the Pleasure of seeing one another once more in their Life-time. Monsieur was the only Person that was allow'd to go with them; his Quality cou'd be no great incumbrance, and his Person was dear to them all. The King was to shew himself on Horseback to the *Infanta* Queen, over against the Windows of the Room where she was to be with the Queen; but his Impatience made him alter this first Design.

On the 4th of *June*, the Queen accordingly went, the first time, to see the King her Brother, and the Queen her Niece, taking none with her but the Countess of *Fav*, and the Countess of *Noailles*; the latter of whom had some Trouble to be admitted to go. The two Kings were not to see one another but once, and that in a ceremonious manner, on the Day they were to swear solemnly to the Peace; but as I said before, this Project was not follow'd, because the King had, for very good reason, a mind to have a nearer View of the *Infanta* Queen; and this was the way wherein he did it.

The Queen came to the Conference before her Brother the King of *Spain*, because he was detain'd at *Pontarabia* by the Duke of *Crequi's* Visit, who came from the King to the new Queen, not with the Jewels of the Crown, but with some that the King had sent

sent her for a Present upon her Marriage, which were very fine. As soon as the King of *Spain* came, the Queen and he embrac'd one another; but the King her Brother was more reserv'd, for when the Queen wou'd have kiss'd him, he turn'd away his Head so that she cou'd not come at him. The Queen her Niece threw herself upon her Knees before her, and was a long while requesting her Hand; but instead of that, she embrac'd her very tenderly, as one might well guess, considering the ardent Desires of her Heart, and the great Happiness she then enjoy'd. Monsieur at last drew near to the King, and made his Compliment to him. The King told him he was extremely glad to see his Highness; and then the young Queen and he complimented each other. The King of *Spain* receiv'd the Cardinal with large Commendations of his Person, the Esteem he always had for him, and his other great Qualities; and told him at last, *That Europe was indebted to him for the Peace.*

Don *Louis* brought the King his Master a Chair, and at the same time, the Countess of *Flex*, Lady of Honour to the Queen, brought her one. They sat down just by the Line, in the great Room of Conference that separates the two Kingdoms. The † *Camarera*, Mayor to the young Queen, brought her Mistress a Stool: She sat down by the King her Father, and Monsieur seated himself in an easy Chair by his Mother. The Conversation on the

† Lady of Honour.

Queen's Part was good, tender, and full of Affection; but a little too grave on the King's; and at her Return the Queen seem'd better pleas'd with the good Intentions of his Love, than any part of his outward Behaviour. In their Discourse they mention'd the War; and as the Queen was lamenting the long Continuance of it, he with a great Sigh said, (a) *Ay, Sennora, es el Diablo, que to a becho*: he said to her on another Occasion, (b) *Agora, presto tendremos niettos*. To which the Queen answer'd, (c) *Que assi lo sperava, pero que le pedia Licencia, para dessear un Hyo por el Rey, primero que una Nouia, por el Principe su Sobrino*. They talk'd at length of every thing that cou'd come into the Minds of a Brother and Sister that had not seen one another for forty five Years together. The Queen again said to him, upon the Subject of the War, (d) *To creo que me pardonnara V. Magestad, de aver sido tan buena Francesa: yo lo devia al Rey mi Hijo, y a la Francia*. (e) *Bien lo estimo en V. Magestad*, answer'd the King, *tambien lo a becho la Reyna mi muguer, que*

(a) Ah! Madam, 'tis the Devil that was the Occasion of it.

(b) We shall in a little while have Grandchildren:

(c) I hope so too; but I desire leave to wish the King a Son, sooner than the Prince, my Nephew, a Wife.

(d) Your Majesty, I believe, will pardon me for being so good a French Woman; I owe it to the King my Son, and to France.

(e) I value you for it: The Queen my Wife did so herself; for tho she was a French Woman, she had nothing so much at Heart as the Interest of my Kingdoms, and the Desire to please me.

siendo

siendo Francesa, no tenia en el alma sino los Interesses de mis Reinos, y el desseo de contentarme. This great King told the Queen his Sister, what a great Love he had for the Queen his Wife, how pretty and good humour'd she was, and what a great Desire he had to see her; he made honourable mention likewise of the good Qualities of his deceas'd Queen, his first * Wife, who was a Daughter of *France*, and whose Memory was held in veneration throughout all his Kingdom. Cardinal *Mazarine*, who was all this while in Discourse with Don *Louis*, came up to their Majesties, and interrupted their Conversation, telling them, that there was a certain unknown Person at the Door that desir'd to be admitted. The Queen, with her Brother the King's leave, gave Orders to let them see the Stranger. He and Don *Louis* left the Door half open that the King might see the *Infanta* Queen; but because it was proper that she shou'd see him too, they took care not to stand between. 'Twas no hard matter to point him out to one that beheld him with Eyes, that had an Interest in his being handsom, since he was the Head taller than either of the Ministers. The Queen blush'd so soon as she beheld her Son; but the young Queen blush'd a great deal more, as she look'd stedfastly upon him. The King of *Spain* likewise took much notice of him, and told the Queen his Sister with a Smile, that he had got † *Un lindo Hierno*. The

* *Mad. Eliz. of France.*

† A fine Son-in-Law.

Queen presently said to him in *Spanish*, that she had a good mind to ask the Queen what she thought of that Stranger; whereupon the King answer'd her, * *Que no era tiempo de defer lo*: and when can she tell us then, says the Queen in *Spanish*; † *Quando aura pasado a quella Puerta*, answers the King. Monsieur ask'd the Queen very softly, ** *Que le parece a vuestra Magestad, de la Puerta*? She immediately answer'd with a brisk Air, smiling, †† *Muy linda, y muy buena me parece la Puerta*. After the King had taken a View of the *Infanta* Queen, he withdrew, and went and stay'd at the River-side to see her embark. As he went out, he told the Prince of Conti, and Marechal *Turanne*, that at first sight he was surpriz'd with the ugly Habit and Head-dress that the *Infanta* had on; but looking afterwards earnestly at her, he perceiv'd that she had Beauty enough, and that it wou'd be no hard matter to love her. The Croud that the *Grandeess* of *Spain* made about the King, and their admiration of his Person, was a thing extraordinary. They press'd upon him so that they bore him off the Ground, and the *Spanish* Guards mixing with ours, put themselves in the same Posture with them, and gave him a thousand Benedictions: In short, never was there an Interview of Kings like unto this; 'tis to be wish'd, that it be attended with bet-

* It is not time to ask that.

† When he is gone out of the Door.

** What does your Majesty think of his Carriage?

†† His Carriage seems to me to be very fine, and very good.

ter Consequences than those that have formerly been between our Kings, and the Kings of Spain and England.

The young Queen was going to thank her Aunt for the Presents that the Duke of Crequi had brought her from the King that Day; but the Queen answer'd her, † No, no, *Hija, en esto de presentes, no es menester hablarme a mi, que todo viene y a del Rey.*

When the Queen and the King of Spain were going to part, they found that they were both forsaken by their Court. All the French were gone over to the King of Spain, and the young Queen, to see them go into their Boat, which was exceeding fine; and all the Spaniards were gone over to the King to see him; and salute our worthy Mistress the Queen, whose Hands had like to have been kiss'd to Atoms. Both the great and the meaner People embrac'd her, as it were, with inconceivable Transports of Joy; and the Count of Pugnoenrostro, who was formerly one of the *Menins*, kiss'd her Hand as if he wou'd have eat it. In short, she did us the Honour to tell us, at her Return, that she thought she shou'd never have got her Hands from them, they held them so fast.

While the Queen thus receiv'd the Salutations of her own Country People, her Son, the King, having seen the *Infanta* Queen embark, gallop'd along the River-side after the Boat, where she was, carrying his Hat in his Hand

† No, no, Daughter, you must not speak to me about Presents, for all comes from the King.

with a very gallant Air, and wou'd perhaps have rode as far as *Fontarabia*, had not the Marshes that were impassable hinder'd him.

The King of *Spain*, as he went to the Boat, (whether it was that he saw him not, or pretended not to see him) never once mov'd his Hat, which he had never put on all the while he had been with the Queen: But when he saw the King galloping on the River-side, in the Posture of a Lover, and attended as the King of *France*, he came to the Cabin Window, and saluted him very low, as far as he cou'd see him. I was afterwards told by the * *Assassata*, whom the Queen brought with her into *France*, that she ask'd the *Infanta* Queen, when she came back, if she thought the King was handsom; and that her Answer was, † *T como, que me agrada: por cierto, qu'es muy lindo moço, y que ha hecho una Cavalcada muy brava, y muy de galan*. In this manner did the King ride along, without ever minding his being uncover'd before a great King, to whom he was not wont to pay such Civilities without receiving the same, or greater: But in this Instance his Grandeur was lost in Gallantry, and the Lustre of the Purple gave place to the first Sparks of his Love.

We were afterwards inform'd, both by the Queen herself and by *Donna Maria Molina*, that the King of *Spain*, a little before the

* First Woman of the Bedchamber, Sennora *Molina*.

† Why do you ask if I like him? verily he is a fine young Man, and has made a very gallant Cavalcade.

Matrimony, having caus'd the Marriage Contract between our King and the *Infanta* to be read before him, and the Grandees of his Court, when they came to the Article of Renunciation, he said aloud, * *Esto es una Patarratta, y si saltasse el Principe de derecho mi Hija a d'heredar.* God preserve the present Prince of *Spain*; but if *Spain* shou'd lose him, 'tis very probable that after this Declaration, lawful Right, the King's Merit, his Power, his good Qualities, so celebrated by the *Spaniards* at this Interview, together with the Love that all the Nation bears to their *Infanta*, wou'd give the *French* the Advantage of commanding all *Europe*; at least, according to the King her Father's Confession, it wou'd be just if it were so.

On Sunday the sixth of *June*, the Peace was sworn with all possible Solemnity. The two Kings came to the Conference, and had on each side the great Men of their Kingdoms; on our King's side, the Princesses and Duchesses were likewise there, and were the only Persons, besides the Domesticks, that were admitted. The two Kings swore over a Table, kneeling, with each his Hand upon the Gospel. After this important Action, they embrac'd, and said that they wou'd likewise vow an eternal Friendship. The great Room was hang on both sides with fine Tapestry and Brocade, by order of the two Kings. Those

* That's all a Trifle; if my Son the Prince fails, of Right my Daughter must inherit.

of *Spain* were admirably fine; but on our side there was something that look'd richer. The Troops of both Kings were likewise drawn out to salute them. The King of *Spain's* were posted on the other side of the River, over against the Road that our King came; and ours lin'd the sides of the River just where the King of *Spain* landed. They excell'd the *Spaniards* in every thing, whose Liveries seem'd to be yellow and red, that made some shew; but 'twas very little, in comparison of the Gold that the *French* had upon their blue Clothes.

The next Day, the King and Queen, attended with a great many Men, but no Women, except a Lady of Honour and a Tire-Woman, went to bring away the *Infanta* Queen. After that the two Kings, both the Queens, and Monsieur, had been a long while together, they parted with many Tears. The King of *Spain*, and the Queen his Daughter, were very sorry to leave each other; and the Queen his Sister, by the tenderness she express'd, shew'd that she was sensible of the Ties of Blood. The King and Monsieur embracing the King of *Spain* as their Uncle, were melted into Tears and Compassion to see the young Queen in such extreme Affliction. Three times she threw herself down upon her Knees to ask her Father's Blessing, and that Prince wept when he gave it her. The *Grandees* of *Spain* likewise express'd a vast Affection for their *Infanta*, and wou'd often come back to kiss her Hand, and her Robe, which she receiv'd very gravely. At

last she was put into a Coach, all embroider'd with Gold and Silver, and carry'd to St. *John de Luz* with the same Attendance that there was the Day before; that is, with the Guards, the Light-Horse, the Gendarms, the Musketeers, and three Companies of a Regiment of Guards; all the Beauties of the Court were on Horseback, and very magnificently dress'd. The young Queen was set down at the Queen her Aunt's Apartment, where a good many of the Princesses were waiting for her. She had on a Sattin Gown embroider'd with Gold and Silver Flowers, and some Jewels, after the Fashion of her Country, set in a great deal of Gold. She immediately went into the Queen's Closet, where she had the Oath administred to her principal Officers, and particularly to the Princess *Palatine*, her Superintendent. The Duchess of *Navailles*, who was Tire-woman, was design'd to be one of her Ladies of Honour, (for the Marshal of *Guebriant's* Lady, that was nominated to that fine Post, was just dead) but she had it not then, because her Affair was not yet decided. Some were for sending back the Countess of *Priego*, who was Lady of Honour to the *Infanta* Queen; but they cou'd not well get rid of her so soon, and it was uncertain whether she wou'd stay any time with her Mistress or no.

The Queen, who from that Day took the Name of Queen-Mother, sent for the Queen, who was both her Niece and Daughter, into her Chamber to repose herself a little, and she herself inclin'd to do the same.

The

The Croud being retir'd from this little House, that had in it so many Royal Guests; and all Men, at the Queen's request, even to the Captain of the Guards, and the Ushers, being turn'd out, the King, as soon as the two Queens were undress'd, went to visit his Queen to desire her to go to Rest. He told her, that she shou'd have her Supper serv'd up in Bed; but she rather desir'd to sup with him, and with the Queen her Mother. He therefore took her by the Hand, and led her all alone to see her: She found the Queen-Mother, as it were, in her Shift; and as she enter'd, threw herself into her Arms, and embrac'd her tenderly; calling her sometimes Aunt, and sometimes Mother. This good Mother, transported with the Enjoyment of all this Happiness, kiss'd the young Princess with great Pleasure, and then order'd her an Easy Chair, which was the only one in the Chamber. She look'd upon her with Eyes full of Joy, prais'd her Beauty, and remark'd it to the King; who, of himself, no doubt, was infinitely pleas'd with it. The young Queen seeing the King stand by her, was for making him room in the Chair with a great deal of Tenderness, tho' some little Confusion; but he, out of a Humour that might pass for Gallantry, refus'd it, and still stood by her. The *Infanta* Queen in this undress was amiable, for the Fardingale is such a monstrous thing, that the *Spanish* Women look much better when they have it not on. The two Queens remain'd with the King, Monsieur was there too, but no other Witnesses, except some Women of the

Bedchamber and I. They then supp'd with the same familiarity as if they had been together all their Lives. The Queen-Mother was very tender of the Queen; and she, looking on her as her own Mother, kiss'd her Hand many times. After Supper, the King conducted the Queen to her Chamber, who was follow'd by none but the Countess of Priego, her *Camarera mayor*, or what we call Lady of Honour.

The King of Spain on his part was perfectly dejected at parting with the Queen his Daughter; for, as soon as he came to *Fon-tarabia*, he threw himself upon his Bed, and said to those that were about him, * *Yo vengo muerto, porque de ver llorar a mi Hya, esso ella lo devia mi hermana tambien: pero quando ho visto estos dos Muchachos pendientes de mi cuello llorar como Ninnos, me he de tal suerte entemecido que no puedo mas.* Thus ended this remarkable Journey, to the equal Satisfaction of both Parties; for the Queen confess'd to the Queen-Mother, that she never had any Inclination for the Emperor; and having desir'd of the King a Courier to send to her Father, she did not seal her Letter after she had wrote it, but sent it to the King, and pray'd him to read it. By this first Action, she gave him to understand how inclinable she was to live well with him, and

* I am almost dead to see my Daughter weep, (that however was her Duty, and my Sister's likewise) but to see those two Youths hanging about my Neck, and crying like Children, has melted my Heart to the last degree.

to shew him even more regard than he cou'd have wish'd for. But as all the Good Things of this Life are mix'd with Evil, when the Queen was in Bed, I was told some time after, that she did not sleep all Night, but wou'd oftentimes sigh, and say to her first Woman of the Bedchamber that lay by her, † *Ah! Molina, mi Padre* : she wept for him that lov'd her so tenderly, and whom in all appearance she wou'd never see again : But at last the King's Presence was a sufficient Charm to sweeten her Grief.

The next Day she had some Rest; the King went to see her in the Morning, and was some time with her, and then they both went to Mass at the *Recolets*. The next thing was to see the Queen's Clothes, and Linen and Toilets, and other things necessary for the Marriage, which were laid by in this Place, and then their Majesties din'd together. After Dinner the Queen-Mother went to see the Cardinal who was not well, and the Queen went to the Play. That Night they try'd on her Clothes, made after the *French* Fashion; and that was the first time of her wearing a Pair of Stays, which the Duchess of *Navailles*, being that Day nam'd to be a Lady of Honour, lac'd on. She was a little uneasy at first, but she bore it with good Humour and Patience. The King was that Night a considerable while with her in her Chamber; and tho he had all along made as if he understood not the *Spanish* Tongue, yet now it was found

† *Ah, Molina, my Father.*

out that he knew it perfectly well. The Queen went to Bed early, that she might be up betimes next Day, when the last Ceremony of the Marriage was to be perform'd.

The Queen wak'd early in the Morning, and the Duchess of Navailles, who had the Honour to dress her, did for that Day, and some time after, both the Office of a Lady of Honour, and a Tire-woman together. She was pretty much troubled to fasten her Crown on her Head, because she was dress'd in her Hair, which had no other Ornament than being ty'd in the *Spanish* Fashion, with Ribbons at the End, and then ty'd back again to that part of it that was nearest her Head. This was a kind of Dress different, as I said, from what she was in on her Wedding-day at *Fontarabia*; but it was very gallant. She had on her Royal Habit, seed'd with little Gold Flower-de-Luces, and very fine; for, besides the Honour of wearing it, it is certainly more becoming than any other. It was a kind of Stays and Sleeves together, with a Petticoat of the same, all seed'd with small Flower-de-Luces in Gold. The Royal Mantle was fix'd to the upper part of the Stays, in the manner of a mourning Veil, and trail'd on the Ground, with a very long Train that was cut round at the End.

The King had on a black Suit of Clothes, and no Jewels. They went together to Church thro an open Gallery, a little higher than the Street, which led from the Queen-Mother's House (where the Queen lodg'd for the two first Days of her coming into *France*) to the Church.

Church. The Queen sat by the King, under a high Canopy of Purple Velvet, seeded with Flower-de-Luces in Gold, and the Steps, Carpets, Chairs and Cushions, were the same, all cover'd with Flower-de-Luces.

The Bishop first of all, before he began Mass, brought the King a Ring, which he gave the Queen, and the usual Money in a Basen Silver gilt; but I do not know whether he said any thing. When the King went to make his Offering, he was accompany'd with the grand Master of the Ceremonies of *Rhodes*, with the Captains of his Guards, *Vardes*, who commanded the *Swiss*, and *Humieres*, who commanded the Band of Pensioners; and Monsieur, the King's Brother, carry'd his Offering. When the Queen went to make hers, Monsieur, who was sitting by the King in an easy Chair, got up to the Queen, and gave her his Hand. Mademoiselle, eldest Daughter to the late Duke of *Orleans*, and only Daughter by his first Wife, carry'd the Queen's Offering; and Mesdemoiselles of *Alençon*, and *Valois*, her Sisters, bore the Queen's Train, with Mademoiselle *de Carignan*, another Princess of the Blood. *Mancini*, the Cardinal's Nephew, who was design'd for great Honours, carry'd Mademoiselle's Train, and those of her Sister, and Mademoiselle *de Carignan*, were likewise held up by Persons of Quality, but such as had no Titles. When the King and Queen were under the Canopy, the same Ceremony was observ'd, and when they were to kiss the *Pax*, Cardinal *Mazarine* officiated, and carry'd it also to the Queen-Mother; his

true Mistress and Benefactress. She was on the King's Right-Hand, on a high Stage, separate from the Kings, cover'd with black Velvet, under a Canopy of the same Stuff, and surrounded with the chief Officers and great People of her Household. The Countess of *Flex*, her Lady of Honour, and who pretended to be a Princess, bore her Train. The inward Joy of this great Queen's Heart was easy to be seen by her Countenance, which at that time look'd so very well, that at fifty nine Years of Age, she seem'd in a manner to vie Charms with the Queen her Niece; who in truth was not so perfect a Beauty as the Queen her Aunt was at her Years. The Queen-Mother had better Features, was bigger, had a finer Mein, much more Majesty, a sweeter Look, and excell'd her likewise in the admirable Beauty of her Hands and Arms. But the Queen had a finer Colour and Complexion, that was a great Advantage to her; and, as I said before, in her Gait and Air, and the Turn of her Face, she somewhat resembled the Queen-Mother. At our Return from the Ceremony, that happy Mother did the Countess of *Flex* and me the Honour to tell us, that when she saw the Queen go to make her Offering in her Royal Habit, and her Crown on, she cou'd not but think that hers was the only Head in the World that deserv'd such a Crown.

The King, the two Queens, and Monsieur din'd together. The Queen, when she came from Mass, laid down to rest herself, and then she got up, and dress'd in a Suit of Silver Stuff, after the *French* Fashion, that gave

gave a fresh Lustre to her Beauty. She went to the Queen-Mother's House, where they were some time together in private, in her little Chamber, having none with them but the Countess of *Flex*, the Duchess of *Navailles*, the Countess of *Noailles*, the Countess of *Priego*, a *Spanish* Lady, and myself. The Queens went thence, and shew'd themselves for some time in publick, and were not a little diverted to see how the King was delighted with throwing out Money to the People, a thing that was usually done to please them on such Occasions. After that, the King, the two Queens, Monsieur, and the Cardinal retir'd into the Queen-Mother's little Chamber, sat down on the Bed-side, and there convers'd about indifferent Matters. When it was Night, the *Infanta* Queen left the Queen-Mother's House, and went to the King's, conducted by him, the Queen-Mother, and Monsieur; and none attended them but the Countess of *Flex*, the Duchess of *Navailles*, the Countess of *Noailles*, and the Countess of *Priego*. What pass'd at the King's House I know not; for I was not there. Their Majesties and Monsieur supp'd in Publick, without any more Ceremony than usual; and the King soon after desir'd to go to Bed. The Queen, with Tears in her Eyes, said to the Queen her Aunt, † *Es muy temprano*, the only Moment's uneasiness she had known since she came, and what her Modesty made her feel: But at last, when Word was brought that the King was

† It is too soon.

undress'd, she sat down at the side of his Bed on two Cushions to be undress'd likewise, without going to her Toilet. This she did to please the King, tho it seem'd to be in some measure against that Modesty, which made her have all the Men, even to the least Officer about her, turn'd out of her Chamber. She undress'd herself without much Ceremony, and when it was told her that the King waited for her, she said these very words, † *Presto, presto, qu'el Rey m'espera*. After so punctual an Obedience, that may be suppos'd to have some Mixture of Love in it, they both with the Queen, their common Mother's Blessing, went to Bed.

This Princess became that Day Mother-in-Law to the Queen, tho so good an Aunt might very well be call'd Mother at all times; and the Queen indeed always gave her that Name. It look'd as if God had pour'd down his Blessing upon this Marriage, for the King afterwards shew'd a great Tenderness for the Queen, and she for him. He desir'd her to give her Consent for sending away the Countess of *Priego*, and represented to her how contrary it was to the Custom of the Kingdom to keep a Foreigner in one of the highest Places about her. She answer'd, that his Will was her Law; told him that she had left the King her Father, whom she lov'd tenderly, her Country, and every thing that was offer'd her, to make herself entirely his; that she

† Quick, quick, the King waits for me.

had done all this with a good will: but in return she requested of him to grant her this one Favour, that she might always be with her, and that he wou'd never more propose her going from her, for that wou'd trouble her more than any thing. The King was so ready to grant the Queen her Request, that he immediately order'd the Lord Chamberlain never to part the Queen and her, not even upon a Journey, be the House where they were to lodge never so small.

The Queen-Mother, who knew that the King her Son was of a cold phlegmatick Constitution, own'd to us that she was sadly afraid that the Indifference which she imagin'd in the King's Temper, wou'd offend her Niece, whom she was so desirous to marry him to: but when she perceiv'd that he carry'd it to her in the same manner as he did when she first came into *France*, she was happily deliver'd from that Fear; for she then saw that he was as tender and affectionate to the Queen as she cou'd desire; therefore she had nothing to do but to beg of God a Continuance of this Happiness. Good reason she had to hope for it; but by the sad Experience that every one has of the Instability of human Happiness, she had always Cause to apprehend what often happens in Life. Not long after the Marriage, speaking of the King's Satisfaction and Contentment, she did the Countess of *Flex* and me the Honour to tell us, that he thank'd her for having remov'd Mademoiselle *Mancini* from his Heart, whom he own'd he no longer esteem'd in point of Reason and good Sense,
and

and for giving him the *Infanta*, who by her Beauty and Virtue, and the Complaisance and Affection she seem'd to have for him, would in all Probability make him happy.

When the Countess of *Priego* went away, the Cardinal gave her a Case, wherein was the King's Picture set with Diamonds; and when the Queen saw it, she said, † *Podreis dezir en Espanna, que le parece, pero qu' es mejor.* The Queen-Mother sent her Brother a striking Clock to stand on a Table, all cover'd with large Diamonds; a Present becoming both her that gave it, and him that receiv'd it: but he paid her only in some *Spanish* Gloves that were not very good, which made the Queen-Mother ashamed: and she own'd to us that she cou'd wish for the Honour of her Nation, more than for the sake of the Present, that the King had been more generous.

After that the *Spanish* Countesss, three Ladies of the Court, whom the Queen had brought with her, and many other Women that were sent back again, were gone; we had nothing to think of but returning to *Paris*: and the Court leaving *St. John de Luz* on the 15th of *June*, went the same way back again by *Bordeaux*.

The Queen told us afterward what Opinion she had had of the King from his Infancy, and what she thought when in *Spain* of the

† You may tell them in *Spain*, that it is something like him, but that he is handsomer.

Mareschal of *Grammont's* Embassy. She did the Duchess of *Navailles* and me the honour to tell us one Night, that she always look'd upon the King as the Man that was to be her Husband; and speaking of the Love she had for *France*, she told us likewise that when the *French* came to *Madrid*, the vast Quantity of their Feathers and Ribbons of all Colours, with all their fine Embroidery of Silver and Gold, look'd like a very pleasant Bed of Flowers; that the Queen, her Mother-in-Law, and she, saw them pass by, out of some Windows of the Palace that fac'd the Street; and that they thought it exceeding pretty to see a Garden as it were riding Post.

When this Princess gave us her Person and Peace, she gave us a great many good things with it; but she herself got most by the Bargain. The King's Merit alone, his Grandeur and his Person, were enough to answer her Desires; and so the Queen, who had a just Esteem of her Happiness, often told us that she had always a great Desire to become our Queen, and had not only lov'd the King, but his very Picture; that the Queen her Mother, a Daughter of *France*, us'd often to say to her, that if she wou'd be happy, she must be Queen of *France*, and that she hop'd to see her either wear that Crown, or a Veil: for while the Queen of *Spain* her Mother liv'd, she had a Brother that was grown up, and consequently she cou'd not expect then to be Heiress of the Kingdom. Thus the Love she had for the King made her

* *Los terminos passar todos de un Golpe,
Y en partiendo llegar al postrer punto.*

And one need not wonder at it, the Cause of her Passion was good ; and (Innocence making her express it, just as she felt it) she took as much Pleasure in relating it, as he (from the reciprocal Love he had for her then) had reason to be proud of the Excess of it. Some Days after her Marriage, she also did the Duchefs of *Navailles* and me, the honour to tell us that she was very much concern'd when she heard in *Spain* of the Illness which the King had at *Calais*, but that she always believ'd the Enmity that was between the two Nations spread the Report; that she hop'd his Sickness, and the Rumour of his Death, that reach'd her, was not true; and that she was heartily rejoic'd when she was assur'd of his Recovery.

At the same time the King of *England* landed in his own Dominions; as soon as he came ashore, that young Prince, who had Merit, and by the Experience of long Sufferings, was become a thorow Gentleman, receiv'd Monk that had serv'd him worthily with great Marks of his Acknowledgment. He made him instantly a Knight, and embrac'd him, while the Duke of *York*, his younger Brother, put on his Garter, and the Duke of *Glocester* his Sword. Not many Days after the King made his Entry in-

* Swiftly pass all Boundaries, and drive on till she came to the Mark in view.

to *London*, where he was receiv'd with such Transports of Joy, as a past Tyranny and a true Repentance, cou'd not but inspire a People with, who in him had recover'd their lawful King, one that seem'd deserving of their Love, and accomplish'd with all good Qualities.

The Court travell'd Day and Night to get to *Bourdeaux*, and thence to *Paris*. Nothing considerable happen'd in our Journey, except that at *Rockfort* we had a great Earthquake, the Effects of which serv'd only to divert the Publick. We arriv'd in this large City upon the 23d of *June*, on the Eve of *St. John*; and this Day's Journey is very remarkable: The King, the Queens, and Monsieur, Cardinal *Mazarine*, the Princeesses, and Duchesses, and all Persons of Quality and considerable Merit, went into a Bark at *Langon*, and all the rest of the Court into cover'd Boats. After we had gone two Leagues, the Jurats of *Bourdeaux* brought the King a large fine Boat, whereinto the King, Queens, Monsieur, the Cardinal, the Princeesses, and all the Persons of Quality went. It was richly lin'd within with Crimson Velvet and Gold Lace, had a Table cover'd with a Carpet of the same Colour, and a Chair of black Velvet lac'd with Silver, for the Queen-Mother. The upper Part of the Boat where their Majesties were, was enclos'd with Ballisters like a little Room, and rais'd one little Step. It was all gilt and adorn'd with Emblems, Cyphers, Paintings and Devises. The Boat was hung with Tapestry, and set quite round with Benches,

Benches, cover'd with Crimson Velvet, and fring'd with Silver, which serv'd the Ladies that were there for Seats. It had a Ballister gilt with Gold that went quite round, in the manner of a Gallery, spread with a Carper, and adorn'd in like manner with Devises in Latin. The Room that was the Body of the Boat was very spacious, had many large Windows in it, and on the Top there was a lofty Dome lin'd with Crimson Damask, and Gold and Silver Lace. It was tow'd by four great flat-bottom'd Boats like Gallies, painted of an Azure Colour, set thick with Crowns of Gold and Cyphers; and the Boat-men that work'd them were all cloth'd in blue Taffety, lac'd with Gold and Silver. Many other Boats follow'd it, in which Multitudes of People came from *Bourdeaux* to see the King pass along. At his Landing he was saluted with a Discharge of great Guns, and the publick Shouts of the People that fill'd the whole Key, which having a Descent to the River, look'd like an *Amphitheater* made for Pleasure. Violins follow'd the King's Boat, the Sound of Trumpets and Noise of Canons was mix'd with the Musick: the King and the Queens were charm'd; and so many agreeable things together had made our Entry very fine, had it not been for the Heat, which that Day was very excessive.

The King play'd all the way, and the *Abbe de Gorde* lost in one Hour fifty thousand Crowns. We were three Days in this City, and on Sunday, which was the 27th, we proceeded in the same Boat to lie at *Blaie*; from thence

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thence the Court went to *Poitiers*, which is a great ugly Town; and from *Poitiers* to *Richelieu*, whose famous Name agrees with the Beauty of the Place. From thence we came to *Amboise*, thence to *Blois* and *Chambor*, where we stay'd one Day; and from *Chambor* we went and lay at *Orleans*. Our Entry was fine, all the Streets were hung with Tapestry, and the People made great Demonstrations of Joy to see their King again. Their late Rebellion was enough to make them tremble at the Sight of their true Lord and Master; but their Repentance and Prayers prevail'd with his Royal Goodness to forget their Fault. And as he had just given Peace to all *Europe*, he was not willing to leave any Mark of his Indignation in this fine City. At last we arriv'd at *Fontainbleau* on the 13th of *July*.

After the Court had been seven or eight Days at *Fontainbleau*, the Queen-Mother came to *Paris*, as did also the Cardinal. The King and Queen stay'd at *Vincennes* till things were made ready for their Entry. The Cardinal, who was then in bad Health, had got the Gout; and the Baths that were order'd him for the Gravel, wherewith he was likewise afflicted, drove it upwards, which gave him great Pain in his Bowels, and occasion'd a Fever and Convulsions that endanger'd his Life. When the King, who came often to *Paris*, ask'd his Advice one Day about a certain Affair; he told him, *Sir, You ask the Advice of a Man that has lost his Reason,*

Reason, and is mad. The King, who perceiv'd indeed that he was some times delirious, was very much troubled at it; and going into a little Gallery that belong'd to the Cardinal's Apartment, there he bewail'd the Man who had serv'd him as a Tutor, a Governor, and Minister all at once: he knew not all his Faults, and his last Services had discover'd his great Capacity and good Intentions. All the chief Companies came to salute the Minister with quite different Sentiments than they had of him formerly. The Parliament deputed a President, two Counsellors of the Grand Chamber, and one from each Chamber of the Inquests, to thank him for the Peace he had made; an Honour that was never before done to any Minister or Favourite, and such as had no Precedent. The Parliament had once set a Price upon his Head, but now their Speeches were full of nothing but his Praise; and without being asham'd of their former Injustice, or their present Folly, they seem'd to testify an extreme Veneration for him: the Cardinal no doubt was sensible of this Honour, and truly it was a very great one; but to give it an allay, God convinc'd him by the near approach of his Death, that the good things of this Life are not without their Mixtures. He answer'd them all in Terms expressing his Sense of the Honour they did him, and spoke very eloquently to them. A few Days after, he grew better, and his Amendment made People hope that his Distemper wou'd have no bad Consequence.

In the beginning of *September* the King and Queen made their Entry into *Paris*, having till that famous Day, stay'd all the while at *Vincennes*. I shall not speak much of this, but leave the Particulars of it to those that are minded to entertain the Publick with it. It was, in truth, a very fine and agreeable Sight. The Queen was in a triumphant Chariot, finer than that, which the Poets falsely attribute to the Sun; and her Horses excell'd in Beauty those of that fabulous God. She was dress'd in a black Robe embroider'd with Gold and Silver, with a great Quantity of Jewels of inestimable value. The Colour of her Silver Hair, and the White and Red of her Complexion, which agreed very well with the blueness of her Eyes, gave her infinite Lustre, and her Beauty appear'd to vast Advantage: The People were ravish'd to see her, and transported with their Joy and Love, gave her a thousand and a thousand Blessings. The King look'd like one of those Men that the Poets have deify'd; his Clothes were embroider'd with Gold and Silver, and their Fineness was suitable to the Dignity of the Person that wore them. He was mounted on Horseback to shew himself to his Subjects, and attended with a great Number of Princes, and the greatest Lords of the Kingdom. The Grandeur that appear'd in his Person made every one admire him; and the Peace that he had just given to *France*, and the fine Princess he gave them for their Queen, renew'd the People's Zeal and Fidelity; and every one that cou'd get a Sight of him that Day, thought himself happy in having

ving him for their King and Master. The Queen-Mother saw the King and Queen pass, from a Balcony in the Street *Anthony*: and it is easy to guess what her Joy was, from what I have already writ; the Queen of *England*, and the Princess her Daughter, were with her.

The Queen-Mother, after she had marry'd the King to her Heart's content, cast her Thoughts upon Monsieur; and like a good Mother, chose for him one that seem'd then the best and most valuable Person in *Europe*. It was the Princess of *England*, whom she lov'd tenderly, and design'd to have made Queen, had she not succeeded in the *Infanta*, her Niece. She endeavour'd therefore to persuade the King to this Marriage; and to engage him to conclude it, went and demanded this young Princess of her Mother the Queen of *England*. She easily obtain'd her Consent, for Monsieur deserv'd to be accepted with Joy by the greatest Princess upon Earth. The Princess was oblig'd to him in this, that he always had an equal Inclination to her, and founded his Desires more upon her own Merit than the Restoration of the King of *England* her Brother. The Duke of *York*, second Brother to this Princess, did not make so good a Choice for himself; for much about the same time he marry'd no better than a young Gentlewoman of no Quality, Daughter to the Chancellor of *England*, who waited on the Princess Royal his other Sister, Widow to the Prince of *Orange*. The Queen of *England*, their Mother, had just lost her third Son, the Duke of
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Gloucester; who, by the Reputation he had already acquir'd, was like to make a very great Prince: and her Affliction was doubly increas'd by the Error, which the Duke of *Tork* committed in matching so far beneath him.

The Queen of *Great Britain*, after she had given her Consent that the Princess her Daughter shou'd have Monsieur, a few Days before the Feast of *All-Saints*, set out for *England* to visit her Son, and to take proper Measures with him about their common Affairs. Her Design was to propose to him to marry *Hortense Mancini*, Niece to Cardinal *Mazarine*, without any other Grounds for this thought than the great Complaisance that my Lord *Germain*, and my Lord *Montague* had for the Cardinal. The Reason they pretended to give was, that notwithstanding the Restoration of the King of *England*, the Minds of his Subjects were unsettled, the Parliament seem'd still to have Factions amongst them, and there was an Army on foot that was not entirely devoted to his Will. They thought therefore that a considerable Sum of Money wou'd be necessary for him to pay off his Troops and disband them, and to buy off such as were still factious in the Nation. The Queen, when she came to *London*, found all things in so good a Disposition, the Army so obedient, and the Parliament so complaisant, that the Proposition of marrying *Hortense* did not at all please the King her Son: and tho he had a Necessity for five Millions, which the Cardinal promis'd

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this'd he shou'd have what Hour he pleas'd, yet he wou'd neither receive the Sum, nor ask it: His Army disbanded themselves by the mere Power of his Will, and the Parliament did whatever he desir'd. The Cardinal no doubt was very much troubled at this Change; but it may be said to his Glory, that in all appearance he so little sought for this Honour, and made such open Protestations of his Indifferency as to this Point, tho the *English* Lords had so press'd him to it, that neither Envy nor Hatred, nor even a Spirit of Raillery, have sufficient Reason to reproach him upon that account. His Wisdom and Moderation appear'd upon another Occasion, almost as advantageous for him; for when the Duke of *Savoy* offer'd to marry one of his Nieces, if he wou'd procure *Pignerol* to be restor'd to him, that Minister refus'd it, and said to the Duke of *Navailles* (as his Duchess told me) that he wou'd not settle his Nieces, but on condition of raising his Glory; and that if he shou'd do such a treasonable Act against the King, for the sake only of his own Interest, he shou'd deserve nothing but Shame. The Chancellor of *England*, who was another sort of a Man than Cardinal *Mazarine*, begg'd leave of the Queen of *England* to be admitted into her Presence, and to kiss her Hand. The Queen consented that he might, on condition that he wou'd not mention his Daughter; but the King her Son, who was engag'd to support the Marriage out of the Love he had for the Chancellor, found means to press the Queen his Mother so earnestly, that

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that at last, being overcome by his Persuasions, and the Advice of several Lords, the Earl of St. Albans * and Abbe Montague, she consented to the Marriage, pardon'd her Son, and receiv'd the Duchess of York as her Daughter-in-Law. The Lords thought proper that she should do it, as well to accomplish her own Matters, and get a considerable Revenue, which the King, her Son, had given her in his own Country; as for their own Security and Establishment: particularly that of the Earl of St. Albans, who was Minister to this Princess. He became the Chancellor's Friend, after he had stood out a while, and acted in all appearance like an honest Man, who would not easily submit. My Lord Montague had no Desire to make his Fortune in England; his Attachment was in France, by reason of the Friendship the Queen-Mother had for him; and to say the Truth of him, his true Piety made him in all things, and all Countries, very much disinterested.

The Cardinal at that time relaps'd into a languishing Distemper: It was thought that the Humours of the Gour were gone from his Legs into his Stomach, and settled there, where they caus'd a Suffocation for a long time, which pass'd for Vapours. The Physicians often purg'd him, and as he was always better for Purging, they, notwithstanding his Dissimulation, perceiv'd it was an Humour, and an Humour that proceeded from a bad Cause. The Con-

* My Lord Germain, made Earl of St. Albans.

dition he was in did not hinder him from thinking of his Treasures ; and at that very time, when he had any Intervals of Ease, People observ'd, he wou'd be often weighing the Pistoles he had won, and laying by the lightest to play with again the next day.

The Cardinal was so exceeding covetous, that the Queen had no Money: All the Expence of her Family was manag'd by *Colbert*, a Creature of the Cardinal's, who was sparing in every thing: That young Princess had no Money to play withal ; for her Allowance then was but the thousand Crowns a month, always set apart for the Queen's privy Purse, and for her Alms. But as Play was much in fashion, and the Queen lov'd some times to sit down to it, that Sum was not enough ; for in case she chanc'd to be a considerable Loser for some days, her Money was many times almost all gone ; so that she had none left either to give in Charity, or for her Privy-Purse. On *New-Year's-Day*, it was a Custom to present the Queen-Mother in her Husband's Life-time with twelve thousand Crowns ; but the Queen had but ten thousand Livres given her, and was vex'd when the Queen-Mother told her that she was us'd to have twelve thousand Crowns. This Difference displeas'd her, and she complain'd of it to the Duchess of *Navailles*. The Duchess thinking to do the Cardinal a Service, went and inform'd him of it, and advis'd him to treat his Mistress better. She told him, " That she was not so insensible but she knew
" when she was well or ill us'd." He answer'd,

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swer'd, That the Queen might have Money whenever she pleas'd to ask for it ; but never promis'd to give her any. He seem'd to be very angry likewise with the Queen-Mother, because she was for having him give her Daughter the twelve thousand Crowns before mention'd ; and said, with some vehemence, *Alas, if she did but know whence this Money comes, and that it was the Blood of the People, she wou'd not be so liberal of it.* This Man, who play'd every Day to the Tune of three or four thousand Pistoles, who had all the Money of *France* in his Coffers, who let his Niece, the Countess of *Soissons*, play every Day for immense Sums ; who pillag'd every one himself, and suffer'd others to commit the most enormous Robberies upon the People that were ever known : This Man, I say, who when he was dead, was found to have fill'd all the Places which were subject to him and his Friends, with immense Treasures, had the Hardiness to reproach his Benefactress, the Mother of his King, and the Mother of *France*, and of all the Poor, with desiring him to give twelve thousand Crowns to the Queen, as the late King her Husband was us'd to give her ; which shew'd how tyrannical, cruel and ungrateful he was in his own Nature. At that time the Queen of *England* came to *Portsmouth* to embark and return to *France* by way of *Havre de Grace*, but the Ship was cast upon the Sand, and had like to have been lost ; the Princess of *England*, who was promis'd to Monsieur, being in the Vessel with her, was taken with the Measles, and was ex-

extremely bad. The Queen-Mother, who long'd for the Match, was very uneasy that she heard no News of them; and Monsieur, at least, seem'd to be very much concern'd. The Princess of *England* after she had been two Days in great danger by the Violence of her Distemper, return'd to *Portsmouth* to be purg'd; but the Measles came out again, and the Physicians began to doubt of her Life. But she recover'd, and put to Sea again, with the Queen her Mother, who in a short time, viz. on the 3th of *February*, happily arriv'd at *Havre de Grace*, having incur'd in this Voyage the Danger of losing the Princess her Daughter, besides her Sorrow for having lost the Princess Royal, her eldest Daughter, Dowager to the Prince of *Orange*, whilst she was at *London*.

On *Sunday* the 6th of this Month, a Fire happen'd in the Gallery of the *Louvre*, call'd *The King's Gallery*, which was almost all burnt, with a great Room near it that was just finish'd: By this Accident the King was forc'd to go to *St. Germain's* till the *Louvre* was clean'd.

On *Friday* the 11th, the Cardinal being at *Vincennes*, he sent the Duke of *Navailles* to the King, to let him know that he was very ill, and desir'd to see him. The King wept with the Duke, and said that his Loss was great, and that if the Cardinal had liv'd four or five Years longer, he wou'd have left him in a Capacity to govern his own Kingdom; but that he was then in great Perplexity, not knowing whom to trust, and that his chief

Desire

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Desire was to manage his own Affairs. This News brought all the Court from *St. Germain* to *Paris*, whence the King went immediately to *Vincennes*. The Queen-Mother went thither likewise, and was serv'd by the Queen her Daughter's Officers, because she did not take her own with her. On the same Day, which was the 11th, they gave the Cardinal a Vomit about Night, which eas'd him much; and for that reason, they gave him another on the 13th, which made him much better for a Day or two, by reason of the great Evacuation it occasion'd: but he relaps'd soon after into the same Disorder.

The Queen of *England* arriv'd at *Paris* the 20th of *February*; she was well receiv'd by the King and the Queens, who went almost as far as *St. Dennis* to meet her, with all the Grandeur and Attendance that constantly goes with the King of *France*.

On the 22d of *February*, the King and Queen-Mother, who were then at *Vincennes*, went in the Morning to see the Cardinal; they found him worse that Day, and more oppress'd: he spoke to them about his Death, and said very affecting things. The King and Queen-Mother staid with him about two Hours, and both went away weeping, with Hearts ready to break. About the end of *February*, the Cardinal grew worse and worse; and not knowing on whom to bestow his immense Treasures, he betroth'd his Niece *Mancini*, who was come again to Court, to the Constable *Colonna*, with a Portion of a hundred thousand Livres a Year in *Italy*, and his fine House at *Rome*. The

King after her Return carry'd it towards her with more Shew of Indifference than Love. Some indeed wou'd have it, that he had still some Sparks of Passion for her, that had like to have rekindled his former Flames; but that I know nothing of, nor can say any thing to.

That Minister marry'd *Hortense Mancini* to the Grand Master, appointing him Heir of all his Estate, and making him change his Name of *la Porte*, which was honourable enough, to that of *Mazarine*, with prodigious Revenues and Settlements. The Grand Master, Son to the Mareschal de *la Meilleraie*, had for a long while been in love with Mademoiselle *Hortense*, and refus'd the Countess of *Soissons*, in hopes of having her younger Sister; but she being very pretty, the Cardinal kept her either for some King, or for some Sovereign Prince. He had all along shewn an Aversion to let him have her, and seem'd to have no liking for his Person: but Death taking him by the Throat, and not giving him time to accomplish his Designs of making his Nieces that were unmarried as great as he wou'd, he was forc'd to take the Grand Master at last, or no body. He was already very rich; for his Father, by reason of the Favour he had with Cardinal *Richelieu* his Kinsman, had acquir'd a vast Estate and great Dignities. Fortune seem'd to make him happy in bringing him to the Enjoyment of so much Plunder; but Happiness does not consist in Riches. The Cardinal *Mazarine* always retain'd a great Sense of the Obligations which the late Cardinal *Richelieu*, his Benefactor, had laid upon him:

him: and therefore when he brought his Nieces from *Italy*, his first Desires were to have had the Duke of *Richelieu*, Nephew to the deceas'd Cardinal; but the Duchess of *Aiguillon* his Aunt, despis'd him; and People thought, when he came to die, that he comforted himself under the Necessity of making the Grand Master his Heir, in that the *Mareschal de la Meilleraie* was Cardinal *Richelieu's* Relation, and always his Friend, while in Favour.

On the 3d of *March*, which was the 2d Day in *Lent*, I went to *Vincennes*. The Cardinal *Mazarine*, who had been better for a Day or two, found himself so very ill that Morning, that there was a Necessity for his receiving the *Holy Viaticum*. The Queen-Mother was awaken'd with the News, she heard a Bustle all Night long, because she lodg'd on the other side of his Chamber; and his Distemper was such, that he was continually ready to be suffocated. The King held a Council that Morning before the Queen-Mother was up, and immediately came and told her what pass'd; the Queen-Mother did me the honour to tell me that Day, that *le Tellier*, the Proctor-General *Fouquet*, and *de Lionne*, were appointed, not to govern, but to obey the King: she spoke to me of *Mareschal de Villeroy*, as one that lov'd the State, and had some Capacity, but was very infirm. She thought however that he wou'd have been one of the Council, but he was not. She seem'd to me perswaded that *le Tellier* was a very able Man in his Post, a Man of Pro-

bity, and well enough affected to her; but he was not fit for the first Post. She did me the Honour to tell me likewise, that she believ'd the Proctor-General was best able (tho he was a great Plunderer) to be at the Head of the rest; as for *de Lionne*, she seem'd to have a Design, if she cou'd accomplish it, of turning him out of the Council after the Cardinal's Death.

The Cardinal being Superintendant of the Queen-Mother's Household, desir'd her Leave to give that Place to her Niece the Princess of *Conti*. The Countess of *Flex*, her Lady of Honour, was very much griev'd at this: but the Queen found out an Expedient to abate the Mortification of seeing another Person put over her Head; for not long after she procur'd for Madam *de Senecy* a Patent to be a Duchess, which was to descend to the Countess of *Flex* and her Issue-Male; a Favour pretty extraordinary, and what the Queen-Mother with great Earnestness desir'd of the King, as a thing she had set her Heart upon very much. On the 5th of *March*, publick Prayers of forty Hours were order'd for the Cardinal in all the Churches of *Paris*, which was not usual for any but Kings. The Princess *Palatine* sent him, to her great Regret, her Resignation of the Office of Superintendant of the Queen's Household, which he gave to the Countess of *Soissons*; for he was minded before he dy'd, to leave his Nieces in two very good Posts. About this time the Queen fancy'd she was with Child; which was a sufficient Comfort to the King, to cure his Concern for the Cardinal's Condi-

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Condition, tho he lov'd him dearly: for it was the first Friendship he had contracted, and was seal'd in his Infancy.

What the Cardinal left the Grand Master, in his Governments, in his House at *Paris*, compleatly furnish'd, and in Money, amounted to an incredible Sum; besides this, he had marry'd the Princess of *Conti*, Madam de *Modena*, and the Countess de *Soissons*, and given them all vast Fortunes. He left two hundred thousand Crowns to little *Mariana*, his youngest Niece, and the Government of *Auvergne* to him that shou'd marry her; and as for his Nephew *Mancini*, whom he disinherited, not thinking him worthy to bear his Name, to him he left the Principality or Duchy of *Ferreti* in *Italy*, the Duchy of *Nevers* in *France*, with part of his House, and a great many other Estates. He gave rich Benefices to every one of his Grand Nephews of the Name of *Merceur*, and bestow'd on all his Friends, Governments, Bishopricks, and Money. He restor'd the Duke of *Lorraine* to his Dominions, to make him some amends for his refusing him the Honour of being his Nephew; and every Recommendation and good Word of his, was at that time the making of the greatest Lords of the Realm. He made his Will, and sign'd it the 6th of *March*; and having already receiv'd the holy *Viaticum*, seem'd desirous to employ the Remainder of his Time for the Salvation of his Soul. He sent for M. *Folty*, Curate of *St. Nicholas de Champs*, a Man of great Reputation, and desir'd him not to leave him; he seem'd to have

holy Thoughts, and begg'd for Mercy ; but 'tis not every one that says *Lord, Lord, I shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven*. We shou'd however every one of us, both for our selves and others, put our Trust in the divine Mercy, which is the only Riches of a Sinner.

On *Thursday* the 3d of *March*, the Day on which he receiv'd the Sacrament, the Queen-Mother did me the honour to tell me, in the Presence of the King, that the Cardinal was become very low in the Sight of God ; that he had great Sentiments of Humility, and that she hop'd God wou'd have Mercy on him. These two things however are hard to be reconcil'd, *viz.* Christian Humility, with the Love of the good Things of this World, and of so much Greatness, as made him dispose of a whole Kingdom just as he thought fit. He gave away every thing that was vacant, and such things in short as were none of his to give : He did it indeed with the King's Consent, which made him think that he was free to take and give every thing to his Friends and Kindred : but the Pretence for so doing was not perhaps so very justifiable ; it was in some measure abusing the Opinion that the King had of him, thus to take from him his Power, his Revenues, and his Right to dispose of Offices, of Governments, of Abbeyes, of Bishopricks, and almost of every thing that was in his Disposal.

The Cardinal *Mazarine* was suspected to have not much Religion in him ; his Youth was sully'd with a bad Character which he got in *Italy* ; and as I have heard some People say

say of him, he never paid a due Veneration to the most sacred Myſteries. His Life, tho' it was morally good, did not ſeem to be regulated by the Maxims of the Goſpel; and it were to be wiſh'd that the laſt Years of it, wherein he did ſome virtuous Actions, had been entirely regulated with a View to his Salvation: but God only knows the Soul of Man, and what we perceive praiſe-worthy, ſhou'd always engage us to believe the Reality of what Good we ſee in another, becauſe we cannot diſcern, and ought not to judge of the Thoughts and Sentiments of the Heart. The Miniſter ſhew'd a great Firmneſs and Tranquillity of Mind in this laſt Scene of his Life; he advis'd with *le Tellier* about Matters of State. On the 4th and the 6th, he prepar'd Diſpatches for *Rome*, and ſign'd them; and his End was attended with Honour, by reaſon of the Tears which the King ſhed; with Riches, by reaſon of the Wealth which he left to his Family, and thoſe he was minded to enrich; and with Reſolution, by reaſon of the good Grace wherewith he met Death: for, poſſibly, he aſpir'd to the Glory of encountering it with the ſame Intrepidity that the greateſt Men had done before him.

On the 7th of *March*, the Day that he receiv'd the extreme Unction, when he took leave of the King, the Queen-Mother, and Monſieur, he pray'd them to give themſelves no more Trouble to come and ſee him; and gave the King eighteen large Diamonds, a very fine Diamond to the Queen-Mother, a Grotchet of Diamonds to the Queen, and a
great

great many Emeralds of a prodigious Largeness to Monsieur : He gave the Prince of Conti a Diamond, with many Commendations, and great Marks of Friendship ; he gave another to Marechal Turenne ; and left for his Successors in the Ministry, the Persons that have been already mention'd. After all, he desir'd M. Jolly, Curate of *St. Nicholas de Champs*, to leave him no more ; he had never confess'd to him, but he seem'd now to think only of his Soul : His usual Confessor was a *Theatin*, a plain Man, singularly pious ; who perhaps knew nothing of the Dangers they are liable to, that pay too much Court to Fortune, Favour, and Riches. While he was in this Condition, he was pleas'd to send the Bishop of *Poitiers* to the Assembly of the Clergy, to pray them to believe that he dy'd their Servant ; and they were so full of Acknowledgments, that they wou'd have gone in a Body to thank him for it, but cou'd not see him : He did the same to the Parliament, and sent likewise to assure them that he dy'd their Servant. He receiv'd the extreme Unction in his Chair, made Responses himself, and thank'd those that administred to him. He sent for his Domesticks, made them all see him, having his Beard trimm'd, and being well dress'd in a Flame-colour'd Gown, and his Cap on his Head, like a Man resolv'd to outbrave Death. He spoke to them in a very Christian manner, ask'd their Pardon with a great Shew of Humility ; and confess'd, that one of his Crimes before God, had been his passionate and rough Carriage to them. He told them
all

all what he had left them, and did every thing in the most courteous and obliging manner. He embrac'd his Friends, and said handsom things to them; but in the midst of all this, a Weakness seiz'd him, and he said, *I faint, give me a little Pomgranate Water*: When he had taken some, he said, *I am come to my self again*; and continu'd speaking to those that were present. The rest of the Day he employ'd himself in Acts of Faith and Contrition, which he did with Devotion, Firmness and Tranquillity; he set his Hand to his Will, and sign'd that Night more Dispatches for the King's Service: and tho he seem'd willing to think of nothing but God, yet, as long as he had his Speech and Reason left, he gave Directions in every thing that he thought for the Service of the State.

The King and Queen-Mother sent again to him to know what he desir'd of them to do after his Death; and it look'd as if his Words had been Oracles to order and direct Matters for Futurity. There is, no doubt, a great deal of Magnanimity and Decency in his Death; but his Ingratitude to the Queen-Mother, his Benefactress, the Shyness, Disgust, and Diffidence he endeavour'd to infuse into the King against her, in order to engross him to himself, in which he went so far as even to blame her for the Alms she gave, and for the Respect she shew'd to devout Persons: All this cou'd not but stain his Reputation; she her self perceiv'd it on several Occasions, as I've already said. Nay, he had, even when he was dying, the Face to request the Re-
ver-

version of. the Government of *Bretagne*; in favour of the Grand Master; which is a thing never done, it being criminal to wait for the Death of our Kings. These were the Effects of that sordid Avarice which accompany'd him even to his End, and, in the last Moments of his Life, made it a Pleasure to him to have the whole Kingdom, as it were, to pass thro his Hands, to give it to his Nephew, his Nieces, and his Friends. This was likewise the Cause of that rampant Ambition, and thatar ent Desire of Favour that he was always possess'd with.

On the 7th Day of *March*, the Queen-Mother, after she had been at the Queen's Levee, just went into his Chamber to know how he did; she sent for *Colbert*, who told her that he was very ill, and wou'd not, he believ'd, get over that Night. The Queen-Mother was so mightily concern'd at these words, that the Tears came into her Eyes: afterwards taking me aside, and speaking of him, she did me the Honour to tell me, that she always knew him better than any body, that she thought not the worse of those that advis'd her to have banish'd him the Court; but that finding him faithfully intent on the Service of the King and the State, she thought it but Justice to excuse his Faults for the sake of his good Intentions. She added likewise some Particulars of the Cardinal's Concern for having displeas'd her in his Conduct, for which he had ask'd Pardon, with Signs of great Repentance: She told me likewise that she was much concern'd, that the King, by the

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Instigation of this Minister, shou'd hate the Princess *Palatine* to that degree, as to make her quit the Office of Superintendant of the Queen's Household, to give it (as I have already said) to the Countess of *Soissons*. That Countess did not please her, and never liv'd well with her; the Remains of Affection that the King had for her, made her fear that she had got the same Place in his Esteem, which her Sister seem'd to have lost only to give it to her. She did me the Honour to tell me likewise, that the King, no doubt, wou'd take Pleasure in governing his Kingdom himself; that she was very glad of it, and intended to convince him by the Moderation of her Conduct, that she wou'd not rob him of any Part of his Authority. These Sentiments made her lose the Advantage of entring into the Council, which a great many People blam'd her for, as supposing (and perhaps with reason) that she was persuaded to it by selfish Counsels, which she knew not the Cause of; but in truth her natural Inclinations led her to desire a peaceful Retreat.

On the 7th at Night, the King, who saw the Cardinal no more, call'd together his Ministers; and I then saw the Living take place of the Dead, with such a shew of Greatness, Attendance and Noise, as made me admire the Changes of the World. The King shut himself up with them, and the Queen-Mother, when the Ministers were gone, came in a short time after to look for him; she then lay in the old and little Lodging, because the great Apartments in the New Building were painting;
but

but she left her Chamber, because it was too near the dying Person's, and came and lay in the King's. The Cardinal liv'd out the Night, slept three Hours next Morning, heard Mass, and was something better : this Amendment was as much talk'd of as if he had risen from the Dead ; but his little Strength soon fail'd him again, and it was judg'd that he cou'd not last long. He dy'd with an Opinion that his Physicians understood not his Case, and had us'd him ill : One of his People heard him say to himself, *They have kill'd me.* This same Day Vallot, first Physitian to the King, wou'd have perswaded him to take a little Broth ; but he refus'd it, and look'd upon the Man with such a fix'd eager Eye, as made the Standers-by think he took him for a Man that had us'd him ill ; tho the Doctor's Intention was perfectly innocent, yet he was not satisfy'd with it : and the last Absolution he desir'd, was for having murmur'd against his Physicians. He was all the Day in great Pain, and at Night in a terrible Agony, M. Jolly saying to him that Nature was then paying her last Debt. He answer'd, *I endure a great deal, but I feel that Grace is even stronger in me than the Evils I suffer.*

The King sent to tell him the next Morning that he was sorry he cou'd not see him : He order'd them to tell him, that he thank'd him ; but it was time to think no longer of him : However, he desir'd him to remember the last Words he had said to him. He sent to recommend M. Jolly to the King ; and the Queen-Mother made Answer, that the King wou'd

wou'd always take care of good Men. A little before he died he call'd for *Colbert* his Domestick, and said something to him relating to his Affairs, just as if he had been in Health. He beheld Death with so much Firmness and Constancy, that he told M. *Jolly* he had some Scruple upon him whether he fear'd it enough. His Agony encreas'd, and as he himself was feeling his own Pulse, he said to one of his *Valets des Chambre*, whose Name was *Bernoin*, *I shall suffer still a great deal more.* About Two a-Clock in the Morning he turn'd himself a little in his Bed, and said, *What a-Clock is it? It shou'd be Two.* M. *Jolly* and *Bernoin* whisper'd to one another, that he would hold out till Ten a-Clock in the Morning; but after about half an Hour's great Pain, and Prayer to God, he expir'd, saying, *Oh holy Virgin have Pity on me, and receive my Soul.* He died between Two and Three, on the 9th Day of *March*.

When the King awoke he call'd the Nurse that lay in his Chamber, and going out of his Bed, beckon'd to her to know whether the Cardinal was dead: This he did for fear of awaking the Queen, or troubling her with a sad Prospect of Death, which of itself is always frightful. As soon as he knew that he was dead, he dress'd himself and call'd together his Ministers, the Chancellor *le Tellier*, the Superintendant *Fouquet*, and *de Lionne*, and order'd them to dispatch no Business unknown to him; telling them that his Pleasure was, that those who had Favours to ask shou'd address themselves to none but him. After
wards

wards he went to the Queen-Mother, they din'd together, and as soon as they could, left *Vincennes* for *Paris*; the Queen was carry'd in a Chair, the Marquis of *Hautesfort* her first Gentleman Usher, and *Nogent* who was old, but hail and hearty, went along with her all the way on Foot.

The King was so afflicted for the Loss of his Minister, that he wept much; his Mother the Queen, being more harden'd, and more disgusted with Creatures than he, by reason of the Knowledge she had of their Imperfections, was not so full of Grief. She lamented the Cardinal, and had some Moments wherein long Acquaintance and the good Qualities she lov'd in the Minister, together with the Consideration of what he had done for her in putting away his Niece, made her not insensible of his Death; but it was in a manner more sedate, and the remembrance of his several Ingratitudes of one kind and another, easily dispers'd her Melancholy. When their Majesties arriv'd at *Paris*, they got clear of the great Crouds that were at the *Louvre*, and in the Antichambers, and shut themselves up in the Queen's Closet. She was very well after her Journey, and the Condition she was in made the King and Queen-Mother, and all *France*, hope for the Joy of seeing her very soon the Mother of a *Dauphin*. This young Princess was not at all concern'd for the Death of the Cardinal; and the King's way of amusing himself again in the Company of the Countess de *Soissons*, tho faint in appearance, displeas'd her so much, that if she was melancholy,

lancholy, it was only because (according to the Saying of Philosophers) the Lover transforms himself into the thing belov'd, and that seeing the King sorrowful, it was impossible for her to be gay. At last these three Royal Persons being at some distance from the Object of Death, began to recover their Repose. The Pleasure of Liberty, which they beheld in its usual Charms, was such an agreeable Thought in their first Motions, that it gave some Comfort to them in their Affliction. The Queen-Mother was the first that said to such Persons as were perpetually renewing the Discourse of the Cardinal's Death, that they shou'd say no more of it; that she was afraid the King wou'd be sick of it, and that they ought to employ themselves better than in vain Tittle-tattle.

The King, from the time he saw his Minister drawing to his End, gave some Indications, that for the future he wou'd govern his Kingdom himself. He said, he did not approve of Kings that liv'd idle Lives, and suffer'd themselves to be led by the Nose; and added, that he saw very well he might be reproach'd for having done what he himself condemn'd: but he imputed his past Conduct to the Esteem he had for the Cardinal, because of his great Abilities, and to that Submission and Dependance on him which he had been us'd to from his very Infancy. The Queen-Mother, who was weary of the Yoke that had been laid on her, wou'd no longer submit to any Power but that of the King her Son; and therefore she desir'd that he wou'd
take

take care of his own Affairs. She was not at all ambitious, but so good a Mother, as to be willing to assist him in what she cou'd. All good People were of her Opinion; and the Minister when he dy'd, whether it was to do his Duty by giving the King good Counsel, or that he wish'd to have no Successor in the Glory of his Favour, left him this for a principal Maxim, *To do his own Business himself, and never to raise a Prime Minister to the supreme Degree wherein he was*; giving this for a Reason, that by what he himself cou'd have done against his Service, he knew well that it was very dangerous for a King to put any Man into that Condition. He left him Counsels, and valuable Lessons which the King himself wrote out, the better to remember them for his future Conduct.

The 13th of July in the Morning, the King, after he heard of the Cardinal's Death, was shut up for two Hours by himself, to think on a Regulation of his Life and Affairs; and being afterwards willing to communicate his Resolutions to the great Men of the Kingdom, when he came to *Paris*, he order'd them all to meet at the Queen-Mother's Apartment in the *Louvre*, the next Day after, at Four a-Clock. That same Day the Queen went to pay her Devotions at *Val de Grace*; and when she return'd at Night, the Officers of the Crown and Ministers being assembled, the King told them, *That God had taken away a Minister that had manag'd his Affairs in the time of his Youth; that he had acquitted himself so well, that he cou'd have wish'd that*
 God

God had been pleas'd to have continu'd him longer; but since his Will was to deprive him of him, he wou'd for the time to come govern his Kingdom himself: That he hop'd God wou'd give him Grace to discharge himself well, and bless the good Intentions he had to act according to Reason and Justice; that for this Purpose, he wou'd have no Prime Minister, but wou'd make use of those that bore Offices under him, according to their Posts, and whenever he wanted their Counsel he wou'd ask it: with which words he dismiss'd them. This Resolution was taken in order to lock up the Secret of Affairs from the Knowledge of Monsieur the Prince, and the great Men of the Kingdom; who, if admitted to the least Share in the Government, wou'd have been greedy of more, and weaken'd the Royal Authority as far as lay in their Power. The King settled his Hours, and order'd Saturdays for answering of Petitions. After this Ceremony was over, the King and Queen-Mother going into the Queen's Apartment, discover'd the Tokens of their Satisfaction in their Looks: and 'twas easy to perceive that in a few Days the Faults of the deceas'd wou'd appear to them more flagrant than what they had hitherto been thought; for he was not content to exercise an absolute Authority over the whole Kingdom, but he exercis'd it likewise over the Sovereigns who gave it him; having in many Instances no Complaisance for him, or the Queen; nor allowing him the Liberty to dispose of any thing considerable. He was so jealous of this Authority, that did not belong

belong to him, that he wou'd dispose of all Offices whatsoever; so Covetous, that he wou'd get by every thing; so Diffident, that it was an easy matter to offend him; for the most part so melancholy and fretful, that one durst hardly speak to him; and he often pretended to be in an ill Humour, to hinder the Crouds that waited for his coming out, from taking that Opportunity to speak to him: and therefore it was impossible, but that all, from the King to the meanest of his Subjects, were very well pleas'd that they had got rid of him.

That Night the King call'd Monsieur the Prince into the Queen's Closet, and read before him and us some Articles of Counsels, which that Minister, who had indeed vast Abilities, and long Experience in Affairs, had left him in writing, and which in truth were very good. And as it was known that the Marechal of *Villeroy* was excluded the Council, because he had never been rightly restor'd to the Cardinal's good Graces, since the time he had been accus'd of failing in some Points of Acknowledgment to him; it was generally imagin'd that this was one of the things he had suggested to the King.

On the 10th, which was the same Day whereon the King made his Declaration to the Grandees of the Kingdom, the Cardinal's Body was expos'd to publick View, as it had been the Day before: great Numbers of People came to see it, and when it was open'd they found a small Stone in his Heart; which, as some People said, agreed very well with his natural hard-heartedness.

On

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On the 11th, he was carry'd to the Church
of Vincennes, where his Funeral Service was
perform'd without much Ceremony, and some
of the Verses that were made on him after his
Death, were such as these :

Enfin le Cardinal a terminé son sort :

François, que disons nous de ce grand Perso-
Il a fait la Paix, il est mort : (nage?
Il ne pouvoit pour nous rien faire d'avantage.

*The Cardinal from Life is fled,
How shall we, Sirs, his Praises sing?
He made a Peace, and now is dead,
And cou'd he do a better Thing?*

Cy git l' Eminence deuxieme,
Dieu nous garde de la troisieme.

*His second Eminence lies here interr'd,
God in his Mercy keep us from a third!*

Mazarin fortit de Mazare,
Aussi pauvre que le Lazare,
Réduit a la Necessité :
Mais, par les soins d'Anne d'Autriche,
Ce Lazare ressuscité,
Est mort comme le mauvais Riche.

*This Mazarine came from Mazare,
- A Lazarus in Poverty,
- And of a begging Tribe :
But by our ANNE of Austria's Care,
Who rais'd him from that low Degree,
Wicked and Rich he dy'd.*

Je n'ai jamais pu voir Jules sain ni malade,
 J'ai reçu mainte Rebuffade,
 Dans sa Salle, & sur le Degré:
 Mais, enfin, je liaz vû dans son lit de Parade,
 Et je l'ai vû fort à mon gré.

*Julius, or sick or well, I ne'er cou'd see,
 Altho I spar'd no Pains, or Prayers,
 Was often told there was no room for me;
 Nor in the Hall, nor on the Stairs:
 But when at last in state I saw him lie,
 Dead as a Robin; a blest'd Sight! said I.*

On the 12th of *March*, the King (to please the many great Men who heretofore were of the Council, and were advanc'd to that Dignity by means of the late Troubles) call'd a Council about the Affair of a foreign War, where were present Monsieur the Prince, and all the Princes and Grandees that were us'd to be there, when the Cardinal held any; but for some Years past, he had entirely abolish'd them. The King, the Queens, and all the Court went into Mourning for the Cardinal, which was a thing never before done; for our Kings never do it but for Sovereigns, or for such Princes as have the Honour to be related to them; whereas the Cardinal was neither one nor t'other.

For the first Days, all the Discourse was about the vast Riches the Cardinal had left behind him. *Le Tellier*, as one of his Friends, told the Duchess of *Navailles* and me, that he had three Millions five hundred thousand

Livres

Livres from the Offices belonging to the Queen's Household, which the King gave him; and that the Minister sold all, even to the Place of Yeoman of the Laundry; that consequently this Sum, which made up a Part of his Riches, did not come out of the King's Treasury. He told us too, in excuse of his great Wealth, and to shew us that he had not plunder'd the People, that he was a great Husband, and traffick'd much in his Governments, particularly in *Brouage*; that he enjoy'd several Funds appropriated for the Payment of Ambassadors, the Artillery, the Admiralty, and the like, which he undertook to pay off, but did not; so that 'tis very probable he got a great deal of Money this way, without being beholden to the Exchequer for a Sous. I heard this *Le Tellier*, at the same time, speaking of the Cardinal, say, that he had two predominant Passions, the Desire of Glory, and a Thirst after Riches; that when he came to die, the Merit of his good Actions suffer'd by that Fondness which he discover'd for his Wealth; so that he starv'd one of his Desires, while he surfeited the other. I have heard him likewise say, that two Days before the Cardinal dy'd, he was minded to write his Will over fair, and put it in a better Style; that while he was doing this, he desir'd the Cardinal to let it alone, for fear it shou'd spend him too much: at which the Cardinal was vex'd, and said to him in a sort of Passion, tho with a Smile, *Let me alone, your teasing me is worse than Death*: but tho at that time he seem'd to speak of Death in a

jesting manner; yet, at another time, he said to him in a very serious Tone, *This, Sir, is a strange Passage, for I am a Man, and a Sinner, and shou'd therefore fear the Judgments of God; but I must however hope in his Mercy.*

His Nieces, to whom he left such immense Fortunes, were not in the least sorry for his Death. A certain *Italian*, that was their Domestick, reproach'd them with their Ingratitude, and said, "All *French-men* are oblig'd to your Ladyships for revenging the ill Usage they met with from the Cardinal your Uncle, by your Disrespect to his Memory". What he said was true; for the Cardinal, generally speaking, had a great Contempt for the whole Nation.

The King succeeded to the Kingdom of *France* on the Day his Father *Lewis XIII.* died, being then no more than four Years old: but one may say, that the Day of Cardinal *Mazarine's* Death, was properly that of his Accession to the Crown; the Day whereon he began to be King, and to shew the World that he deserv'd to be so: for it was then that he undertook the Care of his own Affairs; and from that time, all Favours which he cou'd extend, either to great or small, depended on himself. For this Purpose he began to regulate his Life, after this manner.

He took a Resolution to rise at Eight or Nine a-Clock, tho he went to Bed very late. When he rose from the Queen, he went to his own Apartment, there said his Prayers, and dress'd himself. Then his Affairs oblig'd him

him in the Morning to keep the Door of his Chamber shut, as well to favour his Application to Business, as to keep out the Croud. The Mareschal of *Villeroy*, who had been his Governor, and was thought worthy to be the Prime Minister, was the only Person that had Permission to see him; which Preference was the sole thing that comforted him under all his Losses. About Ten a-Clock, the King went into Council, and there stay'd till almost Noon: He went thence to Mass; and the rest of the time, till Dinner, he spent in Publick, or with the two Queens in Private. After Dinner, he generally stay'd a long time with the Royal Family, and then return'd to Business with some of his Ministers. He gave Audiences to those that requested them, and he heard all patiently that came to speak to him: he receiv'd every one's Petition, and return'd Answers on certain Days which were appointed for that Purpose; as there was likewise one for a Council of Conscience, which was establish'd in the Time of the Regency, and now by him re-establish'd. As the Desire of Glory, and an Ambition to discharge all the Duties of a great King, had then entirely possess'd his Heart, by Application to Business he began to feel the Pleasure of it; and his Fondness to know all things that were necessary for him, made him soon understand them. His great Sense, and good Intentions, discover'd the Seeds of universal Knowledg, which were hid from those that were not intimate with him; for he appear'd all at once to be a Politician in Matters of State, a Divine in Church

Affairs; exact, in the stating of his Revenues; a just Speaker, always on the right Side, in Council; very much concern'd for the Interests of particular Men; but an Enemy to Intrigue and Flattery, and severe towards such great Men of the Kingdom as he suspected were for governing him. He was a lovely Man in his Person, courteous and easy of Access; but he had a grave and solid Air, which impress'd the Publick with Awe and Respect, and hinder'd even those he had the greatest Regard for, from taking too great Freedoms in private, tho he was familiar and merry with the Ladies.

One thing that might a little contribute to the King's observing this kind of Conduct, was the great Reputation the King of *England* had acquir'd since his Restoration to the Throne. The vast Encomiums that he heard given him for his Manner of governing a Realm, not near so submissive to its Kings as ours was, rais'd his Emulation, and encreas'd, if possible, the Desire he had to become the greatest and most glorious Prince that ever wore a Crown.

Not long after the Death of the Minister, the Marriage was celebrated between Monsieur and the Princess of *England*: The King was not very fond of the Match, and he said, that he felt that natural Antipathy within him against the *English*, as was wont to be between the two Nations; but it was easily extinguish'd in him by that Consanguinity which oblig'd them to love one another, and that agreeable Society they had together in their Youth, which

which at last made them personal Friends. The Queen-Mother lov'd the Princess of *England*; she long'd to have her for her Daughter-in-Law; and after the Cardinal's Death, the King was so reconcil'd to the Match, that he had not so much as a Thought of breaking it. He gave Monsieur all *Orleans* for his Appanage, in the same manner that the late Duke of *Orleans* held it, except *Blois* and *Chambor*.

The Princess of *England* was a jolly Woman; she had a good Grace, and her Shape, tho not without Faults, did not at that time seem so much spoil'd as it really was. She was no perfect Beauty; but her Person, tho not very handsom, yet by her Manner and agreeable Carriage, was altogether amiable. She had a very delicate white Skin, mix'd with a natural Blush, like a Rose and a Jessamin together; and fine bright Eyes, tho small: her Nose was not amiss, her Lips were red as a Cherry, and her Teeth as fine and white as one cou'd wish; but her long Visage and her Leanness seem'd to portend that her Beauty wou'd soon fade. She dress'd herself with an Air that became her Person; and as she had Charms enough to engage any one's Love, 'tis likely that she might be very successful that way, and not much vex'd at her having the Power to please. She never cou'd be Queen; but to make herself amends for that, she was resolv'd to reign in the Hearts of Persons of Honour, and to gain herself a Reputation in the World, by the Charms of her Person, and the Beauty of her

Mind. She had already a great deal of Understanding and good Sense; and notwithstanding her tender Years that had hitherto conceal'd her, as it were, from the Publick, 'twas easy to perceive, that when she came to appear on the great Theatre of the Court of *France*, she wou'd act one of the principal Parts.

These two agreeable and illustrious Persons were marry'd in the Royal Palace on the 31st of *March*, in the Presence of the King, the Queen-Mother, the Queen Regent of *France*, and the Queen of *England*. The Ceremony was perform'd in private, none else being there but the Ladies of the *Orleans* Family, and the Prince of *Condé*, who were invited to the Nuptials, as the nearest Relations they both had.

About the end of *April* the Court went to *Fontainbleau*, to tarry there all the time the Queen went with Child; and as their Stay was likely to be long, the King design'd to make it as agreeable as he cou'd, with Entertainments of all the innocent Pleasures they cou'd desire in that Place. 'Tis natural for People to estimate the Age in which they live, according to the gayest Part of their own Lives; by which, few can help falling into Ridicule. But setting aside the Age or Notions of Persons so young as Fifteen; I can say, that I never saw the Court finer than then. The gay Age, when the Queen-Mother was young, is what I knew little or nothing of, being some part of the time an Infant, and living the rest in *Normandy*,
until

until the late King dy'd. What I had any good Notion of, was the time that succeeded it, viz. the Regency, which was indeed for the five first Years of it, attended with a great deal of Prosperity, and all possible Diversions that are allowable: In that flourishing Age wherein every thing seem'd wonderful, I had my Share of them; but the time I'm now speaking of, is what I prefer before it. For in the first place, *France* was then govern'd by its right Master, who had all the Qualities, not only of a great King, but of a fine Gentleman. The Queen-Mother had just acquir'd a noble Character by her virtuous Conduct. She was belov'd and reverenc'd by all for her sweet Temper, and courteous Behaviour; and by her Goodness, procur'd the Happiness of both great and small. By her Charity, she was the Comfort of the Miserable; and by the Constancy of her Virtue and Piety, she was become the Protectress of all good People, and the Cause (it might be said) of all the good Works that were done in *France*. Tho' she was then near Fifty Years old, she was still a lovely Woman; and without Flattery, one might say, had great Charms: for besides her fresh Complexion, her fine Hands and Arms had lost nothing of their Perfection, and she had the same fine Head of Hair as she had at twenty five: Her Health and Sweetness of Temper made her very fit to be one in all those Pleasures wherein she cou'd bear a Part; so that 'twas hard to distinguish whether it was Complaisance, or Inclination, that engag'd her in them; and as for such as did

did not agree with her, she was very much pleas'd to see them give delight to others. The young Queen, who was both her Niece and Daughter, was Beautiful, Virtuous, and truly Pious. She lov'd Retirement a little too much for a Queen of *France* that owes herself to the Publick; but as this Fault was to be ascrib'd to her Devotion, it deserv'd rather Praise than Blame, or at least was very excusable.

Monsieur, as I have often said, was a Prince much to be belov'd, full of Wit, full of Sweetness, and familiar to all. Madame had the Art of Pleasing; she was the Ornament of the Court, and as the World lov'd her, she for her part did not hate the World. She gave herself up to whatever the Age of Sixteen, and Decency wou'd permit, and did it with a kind of gay and maggotty Air. The King continu'd to love the Queen his Mother; and that illustrious Mother, if possible, lov'd him more than ever; neither Ambition nor Jealousy troubled their Repose.

The King aim'd at nothing so much as Glory; all that the Queen-Mother desir'd, was for him; and being acquainted with all his Affairs, she was never better pleas'd than when they went well, being as much, if not more desirous, to have them manag'd by him than by herself. She lov'd the Queen very tenderly; and the Queen, at that time, cou'd not be easy if she were not with her. Monsieur had always liv'd cordially with the Queen his Mother; and his illustrious Mother, to requite him, had given him for Wife the Sister of a
great

great King, with whom he might live very happily. That young Princess, who had till then none to protect her but the Queen-Mother, being now become Monsieur's Wife, and entirely united to the Royal Family, soon found a way to remove, by her Merit, the Disgust which the King seem'd to have for her in her Infancy. He began to be taken with her, not only upon account of her Person, but for the Inclination she had to the same Pleasures as he. The Queen-Mother at first had the ordering of these Pleasures, and endeavour'd to establish Innocence in them, and prevent the Danger that commonly attends the Frolicks of all young People, and especially the Great. In short, the whole Royal Family liv'd in an uncommon Union and Concord. This Peace produc'd a perfect Harmony in the Court, where it wou'd have been scandalous not to follow the Example of their august Master. Virtue and Piety reign'd there by the publick Profession the Queens made of both; for they were more frequent in Prayer than the King, that they might deserve the glorious Title that is given to our Sex, of *being devout*.

The King, who hitherto had acted or appear'd like a temperate Man, seem'd willing in all things to answer the Title of *Most Christian*. He allow'd of no Vice, frown'd on Debauchees, and abhorr'd Blasphemers, and the Ungodly. It was owing to this pious Disposition, and to the prudent Care and Vigilance of the Queen-Mother, that Duels came to be abolish'd; so that the bravest Men

might refuse a Challenge without any Dishonour. In this single Point all former Reigns ought, in my Opinion, to give place to the happy Beginning of this; since Virtue, Innocence, and Peace seem'd to reign upon the Throne; not only in those that fill'd it, but in some measure, in those that approach'd it; that is to say, so far as the natural Malice of Men, their Failings and Passions wou'd permit: for there is no Age or good Example that can entirely exempt us from them.

This State of Prosperity, that made the Court very numerous, caus'd Pleasures to reign there in abundance. The Prince of *Condé*, next to Monsieur, was the first in Rank. The King had a great Regard for him; and this Prince, whom various Trials had entirely chang'd, shew'd that he was as considerable a Man for his Humility and Sweetness of Temper, as ever he was for his Conquests. The Duke of *Anguien* his Son, tho very young, gave Tokens of his great Wit and Understanding upon all Occasions. Many times the King, Queens, Monsieur, and Madame, went upon the Canal in a gilded Boat, made like a Galley, to take the Air, when their Majesties had a Collation. Monsieur the Prince serv'd them in the Quality of Grand Master with such Respect, and so free an Air, that it was impossible to see him, and remember past Transactions, without blessing God for the present Peace; and the Prince himself was so pleas'd with it, that he said, were the Kingdom to be over-turn'd, he wou'd never neglect his Duty.

"T was

'Twas here we saw the Duke of Beaufort, who was formerly the chief of the Cabals of Importants and Frondeurs against Cardinal *Mazarine*, and a sort of Petty King among them, now fond of following the King his Master wherever he went, and striving to please him; one while receiving the Dishes from Monsieur the Prince, because the Boat was too little to hold any but themselves; at other times, when the King went a hunting, which was the Duke's favourite Diversion, by the Courage wherewith he combated wild Beasts in his Sight, he shew'd the King how much more willingly he wou'd fight his Enemies; and that tho once he had deviated from his Duty, it was his Misfortune more than his Inclination that misled him. Besides the Princesses and Ladies that were at Court, there were the Maids of Honour to the two Queens and to Mademoiselle, who made a considerable Figure; and among these, some were very pretty. Balls, Plays, riding out in Calashes, and Huntings were frequent; and nothing, in short, that cou'd divert, seem'd wanting in this pleasant Place. The several Courts and different Gardens of *Fountainbleau* look'd like Palaces and Gardens that were enchanted, and its Wilderness like the *Elysian Fields*: but these are not the things in which Happiness consists; it is rather found in the Practice of Virtue, and in a Peace within one's self, and with those we love: whereas the Power of the greatest Kings, the abundance of all Things they enjoy, and the Ease wherewith they arrive at all kinds of Pleasure, is no more:

more their Happiness, than it is their Subjects; of which, take these Proofs.

This was the happy State of Affairs for two Months, or thereabouts, when things on every side seem'd to represent the Way of Living in the Golden Age, and not those Times we liv'd in, when the innocent Pleasures of our flourishing Court were poison'd with the Bitterness that is usually inseparable from Courts: Virtue and Piety seem'd in favour there for a while; but it was not long, before Ambition and all other Passions wag'd War against them; and notwithstanding all the Pains the Queen-Mother took to preserve them, soon convinc'd us, that as the *Life of Man is but a Vapour, which rises out of the Earth, and in a Moment vanishes*; our Reason and Virtue may soon be disorder'd and corrupted, and consequently Man's Happiness is of a short Duration. Tho the Queen-Mother was a little uneasy at the King's taking the Air so often with Monsieur and Madame; yet her intimate Union and solid Love to the King was not abated. As she had hitherto been the Confident of his Pleasures, and did acknowledge to him that the Queen her Daughter (who cou'd not bear him out of her sight) afflicted herself oftentimes for Matters that signify'd nothing in the main; she also told him, that he ought to pardon the ill Humours which proceeded from the Excess of her Love for him, and endeavour to give her as little Uneasiness as possible. At the same time she told Madame, that those late Sittings-up, and Hunting-matches, might prejudice her Health. But Youth will now easily

easily submit to Reason, and mistakes the best Advices that can be given for Reprimands; so that Diversions went on with the same Swing, and there happen'd an Affair that made more Noise than those Gallantries which are with Care conceal'd.

The Duchess of Navailles, Lady of Honour to the Queen, had at first for her Superintendant, the Princess *Palatine*. The last who held that Post in the Queen-Mother's Household, was the Duchess *de Chevreuse*, Widow to the Constable *de Luines*, her first Husband; and she officiated in it then with all the Advantages both of Honour and Service. The Duchess of *Navailles* nevertheless oppos'd her at her taking the first Possession of it: She urg'd that the Duchess *de Chevreuse* was a Favourite, when she exercis'd that Office, and that the great Prerogatives she had in it, were rather an Usurpation than legal Possession. The Princess *Palatine* however, being supported by the Queen-Mother, carry'd her Point against her as to the principal Offices of her Place, the Lady of Honour disputed with her; and it was said before the Cardinal dy'd, that the Princess *Palatine* shou'd receive the Oaths of all the Officers who had any Command in the Chamber, and have the Honours paid her; but by the Power of the Minister, it was on condition that she shou'd surrender her Place at the end of two Months. Ever after this Sentence, either out of Sickness, or Policy, or some other Engagement, she did not appear at Court; and when the Cardinal came to die, seem'd to deliver up her.

her Post, as I said, very willingly into the Hands of the Countess of *Soissons*. The Cardinal thought he might leave his Niece in it with the Agreement and Submission of the Lady of Honour, because the Duke of *Navailles* ow'd all his Greatness to him, and therefore he dy'd very well pleas'd to leave her in this Post; but the Duchess of *Navailles* was not so well pleas'd. She thought perhaps (and might tell the Cardinal so) that she cou'd better bear the Countess of *Soissons* than any other; or rather, she flatter'd herself with this Delusion, that the Removal of the Princess *Palatine* might be of favourable Consequence to her: but after the Death of the Cardinal, the Hope of having no more Superintendants, made her still more uneasy with this. She knew that this Princess was a Woman full of Pride, owing to the Favour she had been in from her Infancy, and had reason therefore to fear the ill Effects of it.

When the King and Queens went to *Fountainbleau*, the Countess of *Soissons*, who perceiv'd likewise that she shou'd not enjoy her Place without some Uneasiness, quarrell'd with the Duchess of *Navailles* very bluntly, and about some things that were unjust enough. That Lady being at first restrain'd by her Respect for the Memory of Cardinal *Mazarine*, answer'd her in such a manner, as shew'd she was not unmindful of the Benefits she had receiv'd from her. The King was satisfy'd, and blam'd the Countess of *Soissons* for her Passion. They had after that a long Conversation, and at last seem'd in good earnest to come to the Resolution.

lution of having the Merit of their Placestry'd, and the King thereupon gave them leave to search for Proofs, either in the Chamber of Accounts, or in their Letters Patent. The Patent of the Lady of Honour, which was in all times one of the finest Places at Court for a Woman of Quality, was in her Favour; for it gave her, together with her Honours, the Office of Commanding in the Chamber, and of receiving the Oaths of the Officers, there being no Notice taken in the Patent of a Superintendant, which was a Post but lately instituted, that the King ever design'd to take away those Advantages from the Ladies of Honour; and yet the Practice was otherwise, as has been observ'd in the Person of the last Superintendant, the Widow of the Constable *de Launes*. The Ladies were at Peace for some time; but when their Proofs came to be produc'd, they defended themselves as well as they cou'd. The Duchess of *Navailles* fought it out like a Woman of Courage and Spirit, and I endeavour'd to serve her in the best manner possible. Her Reasons were so good, that I cou'd do it without any breach of Justice; but to speak the Truth, notwithstanding the Friendship I had for her, and the little Obligation I had to the Countess of *Soissons*, I cou'd have wish'd that on this Occasion she wou'd have overcome her Inclination, which was then a little too strongly bent upon every thing she desir'd, or believ'd herself concern'd to do. If, in respect to the Gratitude she was oblig'd to have for the late Cardinal *Mazarine*, she had not been so nicely concern'd for her own Interests,

she

she wou'd have found two great Blessings at once, Glory and Ease.

The King had still some remaining Affection for the Countess of *Soissons*; which made the Queen always uneasy; and the little Care that Princess took to please him, gave him sometimes a just Pretence to complain of her. The Queen-Mother humour'd the Inclinations of the Queen her Daughter; for this same Niece of the Cardinal's, as I said before, never behav'd dutifully to her, any more than to the Queen. This Disgust oblig'd the Queen to protect the Duchess of *Navailles*; and the Princess *Palatine*, for whom she had some Value, being absent from Court, she took no farther Care of the Superintendant's Interest.

The King, whose Intentions were right, having heard the Reasons on both sides, regulated the Functions both of the Superintendant, and of the Lady of Honour. To the former he gave the Honour of presenting the Napkin, of holding the Pincushion, and of giving the Shift, with a Command in the Bed Chamber; and to the latter he enjoin'd the Oaths, and all the rest, viz. the Honour of waiting at Table, the Preference in the Coach, and in the Lodgings; provided nevertheless, that in the Absence of the Superintendant, the Lady of Honour shou'd perform all these Offices together. 'Twas believ'd at first that this Judgment was very favourable to the Superintendant; and the Duchess of *Navailles* thought herself so ill us'd, that she had some Intentions to retire. The Queen ha-

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ving order'd me to tell her, that she pray'd her not to leave her; she requested the Favour of the King to let her continue with the Queen her Mistress, without doing any Office at all; for she said, that she cou'd not have the Honour of serving the Queen at Table, without giving her the Napkin. The King explain'd himself, and said, that his Meaning was, that she shou'd give it her when she serv'd at Table; and that she did not mean, that, when she had the Shift in her Hand she shou'd offer it to the Countess of *Soissons*, but that she shou'd go thro with the Service that she had begun: he told her likewise the Advantage he had given her, in that she was allow'd a Preference in the Coach before the Superintendant. In short, without changing any thing in the Writing, the King's Explanations were so favourable on her side, that then the Countess of *Soissons* found she had lost her Cause. She cou'd not bear to see herself depriv'd of the chief Honour, the presenting of the Napkin, which she was not to do but in the Absence of the Lady of Honour; and, by consequence, scarce ever at all, because the Duchess of *Navailles* was not bound to offer it her when once she had begun the Service. The Repentment she discover'd upon this Occasion was so very great, that her Husband, the Count of *Soissons*, sent a Challenge to the Duke of *Navailles* by the Chevalier de *Maupeon*. The Duke, as a Christian, refus'd to fight, and partly too, out of the Respect he bore to the Memory of the late Cardinal, reflecting on the Favours he had receiv'd from him,

him, of which he, for his part, had a very grateful Sense. He did all he cou'd to extinguish in the Mind of the Duchess his Wife, the Animosity of Disputing, and the Desire of Victory: but 'twas to no purpose, she thought that she was oblig'd to stand up for the Rights of her Post, which she did with an inflexible Firmness; but her Enemy found means to be reveng'd on her effectually. Thanks be to God, that by the Care of the King and Queen, his Mother, the bravest Men were not ashamed to refuse fighting a Duel; of which the Gentleman who did not accept the Challenge on so signal an Occasion, tho his Valour cou'd not be call'd in question, was a great Instance.

Now it was that the whole Court was divided; M. the Prince, M. the Duke, the House of *Guise*, and that of *Vendosme*, except the Duke of *Merceur*, were all for the Duke of *Navailles*. The Count of *Soissons*, who at the Ceremony of the Queen's Entry, by the Cardinal's Favour, took place of the other Princes; this Count, notwithstanding the Blood of *Bourbon* and *Austria* flow'd in his Veins, found himself almost forsaken by every body, but as he had Spirit enough, no doubt, he resent'd it; and to revenge himself, he gave out, that both the Husband and Wife were ungrateful to the Cardinal, to whom they were indebted for all their Fortune. They defended themselves against this Reproach by saying, what was no more than true, that they had serv'd Cardinal *Mazarine* very faithfully, and that if he had been alive, he wou'd not have suffer'd his Niece

Niece to seek their Ruin, because he had always treated them in such a manner that they might have hop'd for this Favour from him. As the Countess of Soissons was one Day reproaching the Duchess of Navailles in this wise, that Lady answer'd her thus, *I am sure, Madam, that if the Cardinal was to come again into the World, he wou'd be better pleas'd with my Heart than yours.* The Answer was commended, and the Stupidity of the Cardinal's Nieces justly blam'd. The Consequence of this Challenge was bad for the Count of Soissons; for as the King cou'd not be ignorant of it, he banish'd him from Court, and us'd him with all the Severity of the Edicts, in order to make him a memorable Example of his Justice. From hence arose great Animosities on both sides.

The two Queens took part with the Lady of Honour, not only because she had Right on her Side, but because they had an Inclination and Good-will to her, which is more than all. The Countess of Soissons made it her sole Care and Study to win the King's Heart, to please him, and be with him, wherever he went for Air or Diversion: The King lov'd the Queen dearly, and gave her no Reason to suspect his loving anybody better than her: but her Jealousy was so strong, that almost without thinking, she became an Enemy to those she did not hate, because she had naturally an Aversion to every thing that separated her from the King. Madame, who, at that time began to make a great Figure
at

at Court, declar'd for the Countess of *Soissons*, not only because Monsieur accounted her his Friend, but because her tender Age calling for Diversion, she wou'd be agreeable Company for the King; and because the Queen, who liv'd a pious retir'd Life, was not so fit for him. Besides, the Queen was to be her Superior, and the Countess of *Soissons* wou'd in any case, and for the sake of her Protection, have been very submissive to her. Madame, with a sort of noble Resentment, remember'd how the King had formerly despis'd her, when she was offer'd in Marriage to him; and the Pleasure of Revenge made her glad to see, that his Heart seem'd to be turn'd towards her. Monsieur was desirous also to please the King, and saw that the Esteem he had for Mademoiselle was advantageous to him. These three Persons, every one for their separate Interests, being willing to please one another, and being oblig'd by the Ties of Nature and Consanguinity, contracted an Union which was really as great as it appear'd to be. The Countess of *Soissons*, by the Consent of all three, was taken in as a Person agreeable to the King, and necessary to Mademoiselle: But Madame was even more necessary to her, for when she found herself forsaken by both the Queens, and not so well supported by the King as she cou'd have wish'd, she was forc'd to call in Pleasures to her Aid, and to strengthen her Right by the Complaisance she express'd for the least thing the King had a mind to. Hence indulging their Inclinations, which led a young Prince of twenty two to divert him-

himself, and a Princess of but sixteen or seventeen Years of Age to follow his Example; Pleasures by Day, Entertainments, and taking the Air till two or three a-Clock in the Morning in the Woods, began to be introduc'd, and practis'd in a manner that seem'd to have an Air above Gallantry, and to endanger a Virtue that had justly been as much admir'd as it was rare to be found at his Years. At this the Queen was alarm'd, and afflicted herself very much to find the King employ'd about other Objects. The Queen-Mother at first blam'd her Fears, and told her, that it was not reasonable for her to pretend to restrain the King, and that the innocent Pleasures he took ought to give her no Uneasiness. They carry'd them on however to such an Extremity, that the Queen-Mother commanded me at last to advise Madame to use a little Moderation in her Diversions. That young Princess ought to have had Confidence in me, both for the Honour the Queen of *England* did me in her great Goodness, to admit me to her Conversation, and to believe me fix'd in her Interest, and for the assiduous Services I did her upon all Occasions with the Queen her Mother-in-Law. I therefore spoke to her; and as she was good-humour'd and complaisant, she seem'd willing to follow my Advice, and receiv'd it with a good Grace: and I can truly say that my Advice was such, that without offending the King, or diminishing the just Complaisance she ow'd to him, had she done me the Honour to believe me, she had preserv'd the Favour of the King, establish'd

blish'd herself firmly in the Esteem of the whole Court, and have discharg'd her Duty to the Queen her Mother-in-Law, according to her indispensable Obligation. But she despis'd all these good things, which wou'd have cost her nothing besides a little Caution, and wou'd have been of admirable Advantage to her: for if she had but deny'd herself those Airings which were inconsistent with Decency, as well as prejudicial to her Health; and had she convinc'd the King that she renounc'd them in her own Judgment, the King wou'd have commended her; because what is reasonable, always creates an Esteem in those that have Reason. Hereby she wou'd likewise have acquir'd great Merit with the Queen-Mother, if she had but given her to understand that she observ'd this Conduct merely to please her: but in her own Mind she had a natural Aversion to Prudence. Mademoiselle just lent an Ear to the Counsel I gave her, but rejected it in her Heart; which led her to follow every thing that was not apparently criminal, or entirely contrary to her Duty, if it did but contribute to her Pleasure.

I receiv'd at that time a Letter from the Queen of *England*, which shew'd how uneasy she was at what pass'd at *Fontainebleau*, and at the Queen-Mother's Displeasure with Madame's Conduct. She commanded me to serve her as her second self. I did so with all the Fidelity I was bound to have for her, and continu'd to do it for some time; but this young Princess wou'd be no better for all my good Intentions. The Copy of the Letter,

Letter, which I think proper to insert in this Place, was transcrib'd from the Original. I was very careful of the Letters that great Princess did me the Honour to write to me, they being Marks of the Fineness of her Genius. Her long Acquaintance with the *English* Tongue had a little corrupted her *French*; but Reason and good Sense may perfectly be seen in it.

A Copy of a Letter from Henrietta Maria of France, Queen of England.

" I Am apt to believe that you say to your
 " self, *This Queen of England never once*
 " *thinks of me*; but that is not true, for my
 " Lord *Montague* will inform you that I think
 " of you to some purpose. I own indeed my
 " Laziness, and that I have been to blame
 " for not acquainting you all this while with
 " the Satisfaction I had in receiving two Let-
 " ters from you. I desire you to continue
 " writing to me, provided you have Leisure;
 " for some Ladies that are come from *Fon-*
 " *tainbleau*, whom I saw yesterday, told me,
 " that you are always taken up so with the
 " two Queens, that there's no coming at you;
 " and by what they say, I am almost afraid,
 " that even Letters will not find Access. As
 " you have a great deal of Noise where you
 " are, here we have as much Silence, which
 " is fittest to keep up the Memory of one's
 " Friends; of which Number, I believe, you
 " are persuaded you are one, and you may be
 " assur'd of its Continuance. You have among
 " you

"you one that is my second self, and a great
 "Friend of yours, I can assure you: Continue
 "to be one of hers, that's all I need say to
 "you."

Some time after this, the Queen-Mother commanded me likewise to go and advise the Queen, who did me the Honour to have some Confidence in me, not to be so provok'd at the King's Diversions; to tell her, that he ought to be his own Master, that she had no real Cause to be alarm'd; and that, tho the King's Virtue might be attack'd, yet it was not overcome. She thought it proper likewise, that I shou'd endeavour to make the Queen and Madame Friends; for tho she had much more Love for the Queen, yet she had a great Respect for Madame, and wou'd have been much pleas'd to see them well together. I did all I cou'd to bring about this Union, as did also *Donna Maria Molina*, the Queen's chief Waiting-Woman, and Favourite, a Person of great Goodness, and full of Benevolence. By our Arguments, we found means to make the Queen as easy as we possibly cou'd. She was satisfy'd with our Counsels, and look'd upon them as Testimonies of our Zeal for her Service. Madame, whom (according to the Scheme we had laid) I likewise spoke to about it, seem'd very well pleas'd; but what I said to her upon these two Affairs, was carry'd to the King; and told him, no doubt, in a manner no ways advantageous to me. Whence came my Misfortune, I desire not to know, for we ought to treat the Con-
 cerns

cerns of Royal Persons with the same Respect as Mysteries : Madame perhaps might speak it, without any design to prejudice me, and out of a pure Motive of Confidence, which (in the Intention of that young Princess) was no Breach of Honesty. Be this as it will, as soon as the Countess of *Soissons* came to know it, she look'd upon me as a Friend to the Duchess of *Navailles*, her Enemy, found means to poison every thing that came from me, and to make my Applications to pay Obedience to the Commands of the Queen-Mother odious to the King. His Majesty spoke of it to his Mother, and said to her with some Resentment against me, that he took it ill that I was so often in private Conference with the Queen, and that I shou'd pretend to give Madame such Advice, as seem'd to be an Obstruction to his Diversions. The Queen his Mother, like a generous Woman, defended me; and as Integrity, which may on certain Occasions displease, always leaves some Marks of Esteem upon the Minds of those that know it, the King not being able to accuse me of any thing done contrary to his Service, and knowing by the Queen his Mother, that I did nothing but by her Order, he seem'd to express some Kindness for me, confessing to her (as she did me the Honour to tell me) that 'twas true he had found the Queen in a better Humour, since I had the Honour to speak to her; but nevertheless, being willing to sacrifice me to the Countess of *Soissons*, who hated me mortally, he continu'd to treat me, as if in short I had merited his Resentment,

ment, and forbid the Queen to let me have Access to her at such and such Hours. I soon perceiv'd by this strong Mark of the King's Aversion, that my Fortune was declining; but being conscious of nothing that cou'd tend to my Shame, I found on this Occasion, that Innocence is a great Preservative in such Misfortunes, and was not without hope that the King, who had a great deal of Knowledge and Equity in him, wou'd sooner or later perceive that my Words and Intentions were conformable to my Duty.

As I was one Day speaking to the Queen-Mother about all these things, while we were shut up together in her Oratory; we both concluded, that we had been very unfortunate in not applying ourselves to the Love and Service of God, rather than of Kings; because these, let us be ever so faithful, know not the Heart, being liable so far to Deception, as to treat the Innocent in the same manner as if they were guilty. 'Tis a great Misfortune that we can seldom hope to receive from Sovereigns a just Retribution for our Affection and Fidelity to their Service; but 'tis however a great Alleviation of our Misery, that there are Men in the World who have the Sense to comfort themselves under all the Evils that they can bring upon them. My Faults, in short, did not make me blush, but increas'd the Kindness which the Queen and Queen-Mother had for me. Many Persons of the first Rank at Court, seeing the Queen-Mother had some Confidence in me, and not knowing how these petty Squabbles wou'd end,

end, made me great Compliments, and seem'd concern'd that I had disoblig'd the King, whom in Duty, and for many more Reasons, I shou'd have strove to oblige. 'Twas the common Report that I. shou'd be disgrac'd; but 'tis probable, that the King never intend'd any such thing; and the publick Marks which both the Queens gave me of their Good-will, soon dispers'd that Rumour. The next Day, the Queen-Mother order'd me to go from her to the Queen, to tell her something; she was then at the Toilet, and spoke it loud, that if my Disobedience shou'd any way displease the King, she might have a Right to defend me. Two Days after, as this Princess was with the Queen, their Majesties sent a Valet de Chambre to look for me; he found me in the great Walk that goes to *Cheminil*: I had some Fear upon me, for as Matters then stood, I was perpetually uneasy. When I came into the Queen's Closet, where these two great Princesses were surrounded with a Circle of Ladies, and many People, my Fear vanish'd: for when they saw me come, they began to laugh; and advancing towards the Queen-Mother, she did me the Honour to tell me, that she had a mind to see me, only to shew me some Countenance before the Countess of *Soissons*; and she added, *Tho I have nothing to say to you, yet I want to talk a great deal with you, and that very low, on purpose to vex her.* At Night, going to the Play, and passing thro the Queen's Apartment, I was in a Corner of the Room, when the Queen-Mother turn'd aside, and

coming to me in the same part of the Closet, she said to me, laughing, *I continue the Comedy; for the Countess of Soissons, who follows me, will not be hasty to injure you with the King, when she sees that I have a Regard for you.*

This little Adventure, as appears by what I have now said, contributed not a little to set the Queen against the Countess of *Soissons*, and began to make the Queen-Mother downright angry with Madame; which was extremely augmented by the little or no Care that Madame then took to satisfy her. These Disgusts made the Courtiers imagine, that Pleasure wou'd perhaps alienate the King from the Queen his Mother; but that great Prince was so attach'd to his Duty, and naturally so virtuous, that this Division never happen'd. As soon as he had taken his Recreations, he always return'd to the Queen his Mother, still behav'd with the Dutifulness of a well-belov'd Son, and express'd a great Value for her: for he did not only love her, but said Things to her, which made it manifest he lov'd her; and to speak the Truth, she gave him Cause to do so by her Disinterestedness, and that tender and respectful Affection she had for him.

About the latter end of *May*, the Prince of *Conde* told the King, that at *Auxerre* there was found the Picture of *Henry IV.* with the Ponyard wherewith he was stabb'd, stuck upon a Post, with a very criminal *Latin* Inscription against his Person: But his Answer was, *I comfort myself in this, that they never*
do

do so to *sluggish Kings*. One Day, being in private Conversation with a certain Person whom he esteem'd, and saying, *That if ever there were a War, he wou'd go to the Field in Person*; and being answer'd, that it wou'd be a great Imprudence, and a kind of Fault in a King, to hazard his Life so, and that *France* had formerly suffer'd a great deal by the imprudent Valour of *Francis the First*, the King reply'd, *As imprudent as you please to call him, yet for all that, 'twas this Imprudence that set him in the Rank of great Kings*. He sent at that time a new Injunction to the Provost, commanding him to punish those that swore, with all possible Severity.

About this time, the Queen-Mother was minded to discharge herself of a Promise she had long ago made to the Duchess of *Chevreuse*, to go and see her at *Dampierre*, and stay there two or three Days. There it was that a great Affair was concerted; and that Journey partly decided the Fate of a Minister who seem'd then to be in great Credit. The Cardinal *Mazarine*, before he dy'd, counsell'd the King (as we have already said) against the Superintendant *Fouquet*; he believ'd that he was too prodigal of his Revenues, and advis'd him to put *Colbert* under him to watch his Conduct, and put a stop to his Profuseness. *Le Tellier* lov'd the State, but did not care for *Fouquet*; at least, he did not esteem him; and *Colbert*, his Relation, who had been his Clerk, and formerly recommended by him to the Cardinal, to serve him in his domestick Affairs, was then very acceptable to him: He

believ'd he was wholly his, and perswaded himself, that he shou'd always preserve an entire Superiority over him. For this Reason, he thought proper to take care of his Fortune, and try'd to put him in such a Condition that he might be able to assist him in destroying the Man he thought his Enemy. They therefore resolv'd to join together for their private Advantage, and demonstrated to the King, that they had no View but the Good of the Publick, and his Service.

The King, who knew the Superintendant's Faults, listen'd to their Advice; which being authoriz'd by the late Cardinal's Council, and confirm'd by the bad Conduct of *Fouquet*, had the Effect which commonly arises from the Faults of particular People, and from the secret Designs of those who appear to be faithful and disinterested. The Duchess of *Chevreuse*, for Reasons I am ignorant of, spoke to the Queen-Mother against the Superintendant, and pretending the publick Good, did it really much Prejudice. *Laigue*, who was often mischievous, or lucky to many People, was the Person that put the Duchess of *Chevreuse* upon it; his Star influenc'd him to be a Busy-body, and as he had many Obligations to that Princess, he was always employing his Wit about what was most agreeable to her.

On the 27th of *June*, the Queen went to *Dampierre*, and took Madame with her on purpose to put a Stop to those Airings that displeas'd her; but at their Return the same Game was play'd, and the Pleasures of *Fontainebleau*

rainbleau still gave Uneasiness to the Queen-Mother. In point of Reason, she thought it impossible, that the King who was so young, and who spent so many Hours in Business, cou'd refrain allowing himself some for his Diversions; but then, as a Mother and a Christian, she was afraid to trust to his Age, and of the Dangers which those meet with who give themselves up to the pursuit of Pleasure. Monsieur, that had suffer'd Madame to engage in these Airings and Diversions, a little farther than Decency wou'd allow, began to be uneasy at it. His Presence and Madame's innocent Intentions, who seem'd at that time to have no other Object but Pleasure in general, remov'd all Danger: but such a perpetual Application to it, even when it appear'd necessary to Monsieur, was a Pain to him rather than a Diversion; and, from a Change of his Sentiments, what he at first approv'd of, he came then to dislike.

The Queen-Mother being desirous to remedy all these evil Dispositions, complain'd of Madame to the young Lord *Montaignu*, her late Creature, and spoke of him afterwards to the Earl of *St. Albans*, who was the Queen of *England's* Minister; telling them that Princess kept no Measures with her as to her Conduct, and had no Regard for her: she desir'd them therefore to communicate her Complaints to the Queen of *England*, who liv'd then an easy Life at *Coulombe*, in an House that she had purchas'd. There she sought for Peace, and knowing that Madame's Inclinations were all good, she did not much trou-

ble herself about her Actions, as thinking they were blameless.

About this time, the King gave out that he had an Inclination for Mademoiselle *de la Valiere*, a Maid of Honour to Madame; she was a very amiable Creature, and what made her Beauty more agreeable, was that extraordinary fine white and red in her Complexion, the blueness of her Eyes that had a great many Charms in them, and the fineness of her Silver Locks, which was a great Addition to the Beauty of her Face. Madame and the Countess of *Scissons* seem'd at first very well pleas'd with it; they out of Complaisance promoted it, and seem'd to think it a Happiness that they cou'd, by this means, get quit of the Queen's little Piques. The Queen-Mother was much afflicted at this new Passion; she fear'd Danger, from what Quarter soever it came; but she was advis'd not to make any violent Opposition, and her Prudence made her approve and follow that Advice; the rather, because not many Days before, she was suspected of having commanded me to get Madame *du Pleffis*, my Friend, to recal Mademoiselle *de Ponts* from *Fontainebleau* to *Paris*, in order to remove her from the King's Sight, who seem'd not to hate her.

Nevertheless, the King being perswaded that I was the Cause of her going away, he complain'd of it to the Queen his Mother, in such strong Terms, as were enough to let her understand that it was necessary for her to moderate her Zeal. The Truth was, the Queen-Mother was fearful of this young Lady, whole

whose Behaviour was a little too free to please her; and therefore she wish'd, that those who had an Authority over her, wou'd have conjur'd her to live at Court with more Regularity: This was the only thing she commanded me to tell my Friend, and that she wou'd do her the Favour to speak of it to the Marechal *du Plessis's* Lady, that she might take the Lady with her; but she did not at all intimate, that she wou'd have her go from *Fontainebleau*, as the King believ'd. Neither did I say any more to *Madame du Plessis*; but she, out of an impertinent Zeal to please the Queen-Mother, did more than she was order'd, and took her with her to *Paris*. The Motive of her doing this, was some particular Interest of her own she had in View; but, to my Misfortune, it occasion'd a great Clamour against me. The Pretence she made to take away *Mademoiselle de Ponts*, was telling her, that the Marechal *de Albret* was sick; but there was so little in it, that when we came to his Gate, we were told that he was gone out. This Management, which in effect was very ridiculous, justly displeas'd the King; and tho I neither receiv'd, nor gave this Order, yet it occasion'd me a great deal of Uneasiness.

The Expedient which the Queen-Mother made use of to moderate the King's new Passion for *Mademoiselle de la Valiere*, was to speak to him of it in a friendly manner, to represent to him what it was he ow'd to God and his Country, and how much he ought to fear, that many wou'd make a Handle of this

Amour, to form Intrigues that might one Day hurt him. Above all things, she intreated him to endeavour to conceal his Passion from the Queen, for fear her Grief shou'd endanger the Life of the Child she was big with. The King was regardful of this part of her Advice, and the Secret was so carefully kept by the whole Court, that the Queen, who was then four or five Months gone with the *Dauphine*, went her whole Time without knowing any thing of it.

What we commonly call fine Gallantry, produc'd at that time a great many Intrigues. The Count *de Guiche* was some time after forbid the Court, for having the boldness to entertain too tender a Regard for Madame; and as there was reason to believe she was discreet in the main, so she seem'd willing to persuade the Publick, that she was in Concert with the King and Monsieur, to remove him. But his Exile was short, and one may imagine that the Crime was not very offensive to her who was the Cause of it; for this Passion which she seem'd at that time to disapprove, cou'd not, according to the false Notions that Self-Love inspires, but have a tendency to her Glory.

The Duchess of *Valentinois*, Sister to the Count *de Guiche*, and Daughter to the Mar-schal of *Grammont*, who had marry'd the Prince of *Monaco*, stay'd at Court after him; but not long, because this Lady's Gaiety, or rather Extravagance, put her upon a thousand Intrigues to procure her Brother's Return; and even made her guilty of some Jest that
did

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did not so well comport with the Respect she ow'd to the Queen-Mother. She was tenderly belov'd by Madame, and the Sister of this guilty Person was entertain'd as a Favourite: It was but Justice to recompense in her those Sentiments of a Brother, which might have been innocently done in her own Person. Madame cou'd not live without her; whenever she went to take the Air she was with her, insomuch that there sprouted out every Day under her Feet not Flowers, as the Poets feign happen'd to the Nymphs of chaste *Diana*, but Quarrels, Broils, and many other things productive of great Events. The Queen-Mother being apprehensive of the Consequence, had her sent away as well as her Brother; and it appear'd not long afterwards, that it was not without good reason she dreaded her Conduct, because she was not only amiable, witty, and young, but very extravagant in her Passions.

The *English* Lords did all they cou'd to reconcile Madame, and the Queen her Mother-in-Law. The Earl of *St. Albans* offer'd her, that if the Queen wou'd let things go on according to the Desires of Youth, by indulging her in Pleasures which that Age deems innocent; Madame shou'd do her Service with the King, and endeavour to keep them always united. The Queen-Mother, who minded nothing but her Duty, and was very well satisfy'd in the main in the Heart of the King her Son, told them (as she did me the Honour to inform me that very Day) "That she did not desire any one's good Offices whatsoever
" with

"with the King; that she aim'd at nothing
 "but his Glory, and gave him no Counsels
 "but what were purely disinterested; that as
 "long as the King receiv'd them, as he had
 "hitherto done, she shou'd be well pleas'd
 "with him; but that as soon as she shou'd
 "see herself under a Necessity of having a
 "third Person, and employing any one's good
 "Offices with him, she wou'd leave him and
 "go to *Val de Grace*, there to spend the Re-
 "mainder of her Days in Peace." She said
 the same thing very often to the Superinten-
 dant *Fouquet*, and to all others, who aiming at
 Favour, wou'd have engag'd her to protect
 their Fortune, by promising her their best Ser-
 vices with the King. She wou'd take no Mea-
 sures to preserve herself in Power: her design
 was only to do what was just and reasonable,
 and in that she succeeded; for by her Virtue
 and good Humour, she remedy'd a great
 many Evils; and besides, she never had much
 Power, because she was always remiss in
 getting it.

The Queen Mother had very good Reason
 to keep only to the King, being united by those
 Bands of Tenderness, which made her engage
 in every thing that seem'd to be for his Ad-
 vantage: and he kept no Secret from her;
 for besides the Notice that the Duchess of
Chevreuse gave her at *Dampierre* against *Fou-
 quet*, the King communicated to her the De-
 sign he had to ruin him.

He sent *le Tellier* to treat with her about
 this Affair; and when he set out for *Nantes*
 about the latter end of *August*, she was the

only

only Person to whom he told his Design of having him arrested there. The Queen-Mother was much concern'd at it; she had a Value for this Minister, because he was devoted to her Service, and had even by the King's Consent, sent her what Money she wanted for the Relief of the Poor: but being unwilling to betray the King's Secret, and unable to justify *Fouquet*, as to the criminal Accusations that were brought against him, some of which were not unjust, she was forc'd to come in to the Project that was laid for his Ruin, and to give ear to those that were in the King's Confidence, when they came to give her an Account of his Resolutions in that Matter.

The Conductors of *Fouquet*'s Disgrace had acquainted the King, not only of his Mismanagement in the Finances, but of some Attempts likewise that he seem'd to be contriving against the State. According to the Judgment the King made of them, and the Explanations that were put upon them, they were enormous; but the King, who had resolv'd to remedy them, when he went into *Bretagne*, took all the necessary measures for this purpose, which was at that time accounted one of the most important Affairs of State.

The King set out upon his Journey on the 29th of *August*; he had still a tender Affection for the Queen; nor had his new Passion effac'd the just Sentiments he had of her. At his parting, he seem'd to express a sensible Uneasiness: He shed some Tears, which tho he conceal'd from the Publick, yet being seen by her that was the Cause of them, were a
Conso-

Consolation under all her Sorrows. The Grief he shew'd upon this Occasion gave her some Joy, and this Joy very much encreas'd the Uneasiness she had to part with him, whom she lov'd so dearly.

As soon as the King came to *Nantes*, he was for executing his Design against the Superintendant, who upon his Journey had fallen ill of a double Tertian Fever: but his Reason, that was much more distemper'd than his Body, made him follow the King with great Designs to establish his Fortune and Favour, which he was resolv'd to go through with: his high Thoughts made him fall down the Precipice, and the Excess of his Ambition was the Cause of his Misfortunes. The King, who knew that he had in a manner bought over all the Courtiers, wou'd not trust his Captain of the Guards to arrest him, but employ'd one *Artagnan*, a Creature of the late Cardinal's, who commanded his Musketeers, to do it. As the Superintendant was going home from the King's Apartment, he was inform'd by *Fenil-lade* that there was some Order against him. Upon this Information, he went into another Chair instead of his own; but *Artagnan*, who follow'd him, and kept his Eyes upon the Chair wherein he was to go, finding that he did not come, went after him, and as he was turning down a By-way, arrested him in the King's Name, and hurry'd him into a Coach that was prepar'd for that purpose. After that, they carry'd him into a House to let him have a little Broth, where they took his Papers: From thence he was carry'd to *Angers*, and his

his Wife to *Limoges*: two Masters of Requests were order'd at the same time to go to his House, and seal up his Papers. It was done with all Diligence, the Papers were brought to the King, who read them, and (as I was told by M. *de Boucherat*, one that was employ'd in that Commission) made considerable and judicious Remarks upon them. *Bruan*, who was *Fouquet's* Head Clerk, ran away; *Gourville* (the Person I made mention of in the Account of the Civil Wars, and who was made Receiver of the King's Revenues) had Orders to follow the Court, and the King sent to seal up all the Houses the Superintendant had at *Vaux*, *Paris* and *St. Mande*. When he was arrested, he turn'd about to one of his Servants, and only said, *Ab! St. Mande*; for he had reason to fear, that there they would find something that wou'd furnish Matter for his Prosecution; for he had in that Place such things as cou'd not but be a Reproach to his Reason, and a Stain to his Character, by making him contemptible among Men of good Sense, and such as pretended to Virtue. Madame *du Plessis-Belliere* his Friend, and his Brothers, were inform'd of it by the very Man to whom he said those Words, and had time enough, if they had pleas'd, to go and burn all his Papers: But Madame *du Plessis* (as it was known afterwards) wou'd not do it, because she believ'd he had burnt them all before he went away.

The Queen-Mother having receiv'd a Courier from the King, sent for the Chancellor and the Captain of her Guards, and caus'd the

the Superintendant's House at *Fontainebleau*, as well as others that belong'd to him, to be seal'd up. In all these Houses there were Soldiers planted, as also in *Bruan's*, who being his chief Clerk, was suppos'd to know more of his Secrets than any other. His Children were, by the Queen-Mother's Permission, brought to *Paris* by Madame de *Broncas*, whose Husband had not long before purchas'd the Place of first Gentleman-Usher to the Queen-Mother, and being *Fouquet's* particular Friend, was not willing to abandon him. They were committed to the Care of their Grandmother, a very pious Woman; who, when she heard of her Son's Misfortune, bless'd God for his Disgrace, in hopes that it might be a means to break the Chains that ty'd him to Sin, and that it wou'd contribute to his Salvation.

When the King was return'd to *Fontainebleau*, nothing was talk'd of for a good while at Court but *Fouquet's* Disgrace, his great Fall, his chimerical and ambitious Designs, and all the Intrigues that he had been carrying on to make himself Prime Minister.

Belle-Isle was the first Object that offended the King's Eye; *Fouquet* had set Men to work there, had planted it with Cannon, and made a strong Place of it. Its Situation was fortify'd by Nature, and the Superintendant's Care to improve it had made it capable of becoming one Day or other a great Thorn in the Side of the Kingdom, by means of its Neighbourhood to *England*; but as all things have different Faces, it might as well be employ'd as
a Bar

Barrier against the Invasions of that Nation: *Fouquet's* Friends said, (and 'tis to be believ'd they said no more than the Truth) that the Superintendant, who was really of a Spirit and Genius capable of great Designs, had an Intention of building a City there, which having a good Port, wou'd draw to it all the Traffick of the *North*, and by depriving *Amsterdam* of the Advantages of Trade, wou'd prove of great Service to the King and State. He was accus'd of having held a Correspondence with the *Engliss*; but tho that Accusation was groundless, the Unfortunate don't want Accusers, and there being some Appearance of his being culpable, he was presently run down without Mercy. He had bought the Duchy of *Pantkiewre* in *Bretagne*, that the House of *Vendosme* had parted with not long before, to pay their Debts; and 'twas now said, that he was minded to make himself Sovereign of that Country. This last Accusation was no more than a bare Assertion which had no Proof; but 'tis certain, that his fortifying *Belle-Isle*, and having most of the People at Court at his Deyotion, made him look like a very ambitious Man; and as he had an aspiring Soul, it was believ'd he wou'd stick at nothing.

When his Papers and Letters came to be read, several were found among them from People at Court, some of which were full of State Intrigues, and others of Gallantry; by which it appear'd, that there were both marry'd Women and Maids that pass'd for sober honest Persons, that were the very reverse; and

and it was manifest, that he was as voluptuous as he was ambitious. Among those that suffer'd by his means, there were some who discover'd that it is not always the youngest, most amiable, or most gallant, that are most fortunate, and that there was some Foundation for the Poets Fiction of *Diana* and the *Golden Shower*.

The King sent an Order to *Madame du Plessis-Belliere* to go to *Monbrison* in the Forest. She was *Fouquet's* Mistress, and (as appears by what has been said) had contributed not a little to corrupt his Mind by all her Intrigues. She was of particular Service to him in keeping up his Harmony with the principal Men at Court; she had a great deal of Wit and Ambition, and was thought well of by Persons of the best Distinction, who enter'd into her Interests; and she, to requite them, always found means to oblige them. She had marry'd her Daughter to the Marquis of *Crequi*, the Duke's Brother, a fine gallant Man of a fair Character: his Mother-in-Law was so cunning, that she procur'd him to be made General of the Gallies, a little before the Journey to *Nantes*.

The Family of Cardinal *Richelieu* was now in a manner quite decay'd. His Nephew, the Duke of *Richelieu*, had been in that Post, and was besides Governor of *Havre-de-Grace*; but by order of the Court, and the Necessities that his Extravagance had brought upon him, he quitted both. The King had a mind to put *Havre* in the Hands of the Duke of *Navailles*, who had it made over to him for

for an hundred thousand Crowns. The Marquis of *Crequi*, who with much ado obtain'd leave to be required for his Post with that of General of the Galleys, paid for it a vast Sum of Money, which apparently came out of the Superintendant's Pocket, and was at the King's Expence. This shew'd the extreme Ambition of that Minister, and of his Friend Mad. *du Plessis*; and she thought she had carry'd a great Point for her Son-in-Law, but in about two Months after, and partly upon this account, she fell into Disgrace and Trouble, and had the Mortification to see the Destruction of the Marquis *de Crequi's* Greatness and Fortune, to whom her Alliance at that time prov'd prejudicial, because it was contracted at a time when the King was already disgusted with the Superintendant: The King about a Fortnight after his Return from *Nantes*, not only banish'd this Lady, but sent *Carnavalet*, Lieutenant of his Body-Guard, to *Bethune*, where the Marquis of *Crequi* was Governor, to command in his stead, and an Order to the Galleys, not to acknowledg him for their General.

There were very few Persons at Court, but had sacrific'd to the Golden Calf; and as, to their very great Misfortune, the Superintendant kept all the Letters that had been written to him, the King and Queen having read them all, found things in them that were very prejudicial to a great many People. There was at *St. Mande* a Closet, that had a Passage into it under Ground, and on the other side
of

of the Way, an Outlet into one of his Secretary's Houses, a good distance from his own. In this Closet they found, among other things, a Letter of Instructions to his Friends what to do in case he were arrested. What he therefore intended for his Safety, prov'd to convict him of his Crime; and as what he requir'd of them was no less than Crimes of high Treason, he put them all under the Necessity of the King's Pardon, who might very well believe that he wou'd never have drawn up such a Writing, without having communicated it to them. It seem'd however, there were a great many nam'd in the Paper that were very honest People, and well affected to the King; but the whole was a Chimera which he made the World believe had some Truth in it, by the Care he had taken to preserve it. Mad. *du Plessis-Belliere* was mention'd in it, as one that was to superintend the whole Design, and therefore she had a Guard set upon her, and was us'd with more Severity than the rest.

'Twas said by some that Poison was found in his House, and there was a Suspicion that he had poison'd the late Cardinal; but in a few Days after it was put down in the Catalogue of ridiculous Stories. His Mother went to see the Queen-Mother at *Fontainebleau*, threw herself at her Feet, and was graciously receiv'd; for as she was the Support of the Miserable in general, she had a mind to be hers in particular. A little before the Disgrace of this Minister, she had some Resentment against him, because when he was for quitting the Place of Attorney-General, and the

the Queen-Mother desiring he wou'd resign it to *Foubert* her Chancellor, for whom she had a Value, he wou'd not do it, tho the Queen believ'd he had given his Promise to that purpose: but this Failure of his Word made no great Impression upon her Mind, nor did it hinder her from doing her utmost with the King to alleviate his Misery and Misfortune.

In this Month of *September* died *Nagent*, that vain Babbler, who by his Buffooneries, had got an Estate of above an hundred thousand Livres a Year. This wicked merry Fellow, who talk'd so much himself in his Lifetime, was scarce mention'd by any one after his Death; which happening at a time when nothing was talk'd of but *Fouquet's* Disgrace, Silence was his only Reward for the many superfluous Speeches he had made in the Cabinet, where being neither esteem'd nor hated, he was easily bury'd in Oblivion.

About the end of the same Month died also *Mademoiselle de Beaumont*; her Wit, Merit, and Friends having recover'd her out of all her Disgraces, she was return'd to Court; but as she had been often too free in publishing her Neighbour's Faults, she receiv'd this just Punishment after her Death, that she was not much lamented: She dy'd at *Fontainebleau* in a very few Days, in great Disorder of Mind; it seem'd nevertheless that she had some calm Moments to confess herself in: but that Interval was too short for so great and important a Work as she then had to do.

The Duke of *Amville*, the Brion of old,* dy'd likewise at the same time, and by his Death escap'd those Chains he had put upon himself by too close an Attachment to Mademoiselle *Meneville*, a very pretty Woman, and Maid of Honour to the Queen-Mother. He had made her a Promise of Marriage, but wou'd not perform it: when the King and Queen-Mother press'd him to it, he always flew off; and before he died, his Passion was so far extinguish'd, that he requested of the Queen-Mother, that she wou'd forbid them to see one another. He offer'd to satisfy his Obligations with Money; but she, who had hopes of getting that another way, wou'd be marry'd to him in order to become a Duchess: but Fortune and Death cross'd her Desires, and banish'd her Chimeras. Her pretended Husband found out, that she had had to do with the Superintendant *Fouquet*, and a Promise from him of fifty thousand Crowns: but she never receiv'd them, and in eight Days lost all she had very shamefully, not only real Estate, but what she aspir'd to raise by her Beauty, her Industry and her Engagements. These were honest, with regard to the Duke *d'Amville*, and not altogether criminal, as to the Superintendant: this was evident, for she might thank her Stars, that among the Letters found in the Prisoners Boxes, there were some that justify'd her Virtue. Women com-

* Of the House of *Ventadour*: he was in the Queen-Mother's youthful Days, a fine, well shap'd, very gallant Man, and gave his Name to an Apartment at the end of one of the Walks of the Royal Palace; where they play at Mall, and where he frequently gave the King Collations.

monly cheat Men with a fair Appearance, and when they have no real Value for them, are as ungenerous to them as possible; but all this is wicked in the sight of God, and scandalous before Men.

Fouquet got a great deal of Disgrace by his Follies, and above all, as I said before, by keeping all the Letters that had been wrote to him, and leaving the Project he had drawn up for future Execution, carelessly expos'd to the Curiosity of his Enemies, whereby he lost all his Friends; for such Persons as he shou'd always be fearful of their Disgrace. In relation to him it was said, that by this Folly the Day of Judgment was come upon him, wherein he had seen in a naked View a Detail of all his Life, Crimes and Thoughts, and those of every body else whom he had to do with: from whence we may judge, that if all Men were to be look'd into after the same manner, we might almost in every one, discern strange Failings.

To speak the Truth, it appear'd that *Fouquet* had been guilty of great Profusion, and that he was so far from being rich, that he ow'd more than he was worth. His Crimes against the State might be imaginary, for he committed them all alone in writing Stories that were scarce plain enough to prove any bad Intention in him; and the very Scheme itself, that blacken'd him most, was found behind a great Looking-glass, as a foul Paper of no Consequence; which is enough to make us believe, that he did not think it so considerable as it seem'd to be: but 'tis a great Misfortune
to

to want Wisdom, and to fall under the Disgrace of one's Sovereign.

This Year, in the beginning of Summer, the Count *d' Estrades*, our Ambassador to the Court of *England*, fail'd of meeting the Ambassador of *Venice*, because having not receiv'd an Invitation, and knowing that the *Spanish* Ambassador was to go, he omitted going, in complaisance to the King of *England*, who sent to request him not to go, upon Information that there was likely to be a great Contest between the *French* and *Spanish* Ambassadors. The King had commanded his Ambassador that, on all Occasions, he shou'd go to meet foreign Ambassadors, and take place of the *Spanish*, cost what it wou'd. The King of *England*, uneasy to see what great Disorders were like to be at *London* upon the very first Occasion that shou'd offer, and that himself might have the worst on't, did all he cou'd to moderate the Matter so, that no very ill Consequences might attend it. He propos'd that the two Ambassadors of *France* and *Venice* shou'd go up the *Thames* to *Whitehall*, and press'd the *Spanish* Ambassador not to be there; but all his Expedients wou'd not do. *Batteville*, the *Spanish* Ambassador, shew'd him an Order from his Master, wherein he commanded him to do all that in him lay to precede the Ambassador of *France*. The King, on his part, refus'd all Expedients that were propos'd, and order'd *Estrades* to take place of *Batteville*, and to meet the first Ambassadors that shou'd come to *London*. The Count of *Estrades* made ready to obey the King; he kept

kept some clever Fellows a long while in pay, and made the best Preparations he cou'd; but, as he told me, he had not Money enough to throw among the People, and perhaps he had not the Courage to venture his own; for when he told me the Particulars of it, he assur'd me, that when he went away, he had no more than his ordinary Salary, and that much lessen'd by the Exchange. It was no hard matter therefore for *Batteville*, by expending a great deal of Money, to gain the Populace, and by keeping them in Pay to receive great Service from them. After all these Preparations, the first time that any Ambassadors came to *London*, the King of *England*, who had a good Understanding with *France*, advis'd the Count *d' Estrades* to make his Coach immediately follow his: *Estrades* was for taking his Place, according to the antient Custom, before the *Spanish* Ambassador's, but *Batteville* oppos'd him, and was assisted by the Watermen of the *Thames*, and a great Number of the Mob, to that degree, that the *French* Ambassador's Coach was broke, his Horses kill'd, many of his People and his own Son wounded; and *Batteville* at last got before him, and had the Advantage of doing that for his Master which had never been done before, and which in Justice ought not to have been done at all. As soon as the King understood this News, he was very much provok'd. The illustrious Blood of *St. Louis* that boild in his Veins, made him resent this Action as a great Affront. He immediately sent and commanded *Fuenfaldagne*,

the Catholick King's Ambassador Extraordinary in *France*, to depart the Kingdom; he sent an Order to the Marquis *de la Fucntes*, who was coming hither to be Ambassador in Ordinary, to hinder him from entring his Kingdom; wou'd not graht the Passports desir'd by *Caracene*, Governor of the *Netherlands*, for his Return thro *France* for *Spain*, so that his Journey was put off: and he moreover commanded *d'Aubusson*, Archbishop of *Ambrun*, his Ambassador in *Spain*, to leave *Madrid* as soon as possible, and return home. His Passion, that broke out to such a degree, made some fear that the Peace which the two Kings had so solemnly sworn to, and receiv'd with such Tokens of mutual Affection, wou'd not be of so long a Continuance as was desir'd. Nor was the King very well pleas'd with the King of *England*; he complain'd of his Subjects having favour'd *Batteville*, and for some time believ'd that he had not taken sufficient Care to prevent their insulting the Count *de Estrades*. He having an Order to return, and arriving at *Fontainbleau* about the end of *October*, inform'd the King, that Prince had done all it was possible for him to do on that Occasion; but being not absolute Master of the Populace of *London*, he was forc'd to suffer it because it wou'd have been very difficult, if not impossible, for him to hang up five or six thousand People that had taken Arms for the King of *Spain*. The King of *England* indeed was a very powerful Prince, because he had at that time a fine large Navy well equipp'd; was Master of *Dunkirk*, which he had forti-

fy'd;

fy'd; was in Alliance with *Portugal*, whose *Infanta* he was going to marry, and had in *Africa* a considerable Place, which the *Portuguese* by Agreement had given him: but at *London* he was not so well obey'd as it were to have been wish'd; nor were his Revenues as yet entirely settled: he waited for a Parliament to order the Matter; and what Money he had, he employ'd to raise his Power abroad, and made the best shift at home that he cou'd.

The King in his Discourse with *Estrades*, after his Return from *England*, express'd a great Desire to revenge the Affront he thought he had there receiv'd; but *Estrades* told him, that the King of *England* had as much reason to resent it as his Majesty, because it was the Interest of the King of *Spain*, who saw how formidable that Prince was become by the Alliance he had made with *Portugal*, to cut him out work; and that Action which the *Spaniards* had fomented and prepar'd with so much Pains and Money, did not so much proceed from a Desire of Precedence, as from a View to raise a Sedition in *London* to give that Prince some Perplexity: And the King telling him, that he had desir'd of the King of *England* to send *Batteville* out of his Dominions; *Estrades* answer'd (as he himself told me) that he believ'd it wou'd be better for the King to wave the Execution of that Demand; because if the King of *Spain*, under a Necessity of maintaining the Peace, was resolv'd to give him Satisfaction, he cou'd not do it more effectually, than by recalling *Batte-*

ville; that it wou'd be better to have him turn'd out by the King of *Spain* than by the King of *England*: which he found to be good Sense, and resolv'd to follow his Counsel.

Estrades told me farther, that he advis'd the King not to be too hasty in declaring to the King of *England*, that he was determin'd upon a War in case he had not Satisfaction; because it was that Prince's great Concern to engage him in it, and that he might pay dear for such a Resolution; whereas, if he shew'd an Inclination to quarrel of himself with *Spain*, the *English* wou'd expect to be ask'd: which was likewise Advice, that the King approv'd; but in a short time Matters were accommodated to his Content. The King of *Spain*, being willing to maintain the Peace by all fair and gentle means, wrote immediately to the Queen his Daughter, in Terms of great Kindness for the King; saying, "That he was the Father, and the oldest Man; that he lov'd the King as his Son, and that it behov'd him to be wiser." But because the King wou'd not be content without a Satisfaction as publick as the Affront, the King of *Spain* was forc'd at last not only to recall *Batteville* out of *England*, but to send his Ambassador, the Marquis de *las Fuentes*, to make publick Excuses to the King; which were express'd in such emphatical Terms, as not only satisfy'd the King, but astonish'd all *Europe*. This glorious Reparation produc'd great Effects on both sides: As the King of *Spain* seem'd on this Occasion to abate something of his old Haughtiness, the Reputation of our King

King infinitely increas'd, and made him every where formidable; because these first Actions of his plainly shew'd, that he had a Genius which wou'd brook no Diminution of his Glory, and to make himself dreaded by all his Neighbours. // *Le Tellier*, who had made it his business to study the King's Temper, confirm'd me at that time in what my Brother had told me of the Gravity and Seriousness with which he season'd his good Nature, to impress all who saw him with Respect, and to awe such, as by too frequent Approaches, were in danger of abusing the Liberty he gave them to talk to him: but he was surpriz'd to see, that in so short a time, he was become so competent a Master of his Business, even after he had so entirely given himself up to the Cardinal's Conduct as long as he liv'd. He excus'd himself to us one Day, apologizing for the Indolence that usually attends young People; and mention'd the grateful Sense he had of the Services he had done him, and the Pains he took to teach him the Art of Governing.

God's Blessing was visible, not only upon him and the Royal Family, but upon the whole Kingdom, in the Birth of a *Dauphin*, when he came into the World, which was on the 1st Day of November, the Feast of *All-Saints*, about five Minutes before Noon; he was the presumptive Heir of the two great Kingdoms of *France* and *Spain*: for the Prince of *Spain*, who was the only Son that King had, was lately dead. 'Tis hard to find a Prince in any Age whose Birth was so remarkably glorious, considering the ancient Grandeur of the

Kings his Ancestors by his Father's side ; or or the additional Splendor of the Emperors and Kings that were his Ancestors by the Mother's side.

The Queen in her Lying-in was very ill, and in danger of her Life: When she was in her greatest Pains, the King seem'd to be so afflicted, and so sensibly concern'd for her, that he left no room to doubt, but that the Love he had for her was more deeply rooted in his Heart than the Passion he had for any other. At five a-Clock in the Morning, he went to confess and receive the Sacrament, and after he had implor'd the divine Protection, devoted himself entirely to the Care of assisting her ; who in the middle of her Suffering, was every Moment giving him Tokens of her tender Affection for him ; infomuch that this precious Infant, when it came into the World, was in himself not only a double Tie to unite the Royal Pair, to whom he ow'd his Being ; but as he grew up, and gave them either Pain or Joy, wou'd prove an infallible Pledge of their mutual Love. The King design'd that Mad. *de Montausier* shou'd be Governess to the Child as soon as it was born ; and this Choice that he made of his own accord was at first universally lik'd, because that Lady had the general Esteem of every body. She had, when young, been a Favourite of the late Madame the Princess, and one of the dearest Friends that the Duchess of *Aiguillon* had, when that Lady, by the Favour of Cardinal *Richelieu* her Uncle, was idoliz'd by the Courtiers. She had indeed no Share in that

that great Minister's Favours, but contented herself in sharing the Glory of his Niece; who not being able to relish any Pleasure without her, made her a Partner in her Joys, and gave her the Opportunity of gratifying her Friends, which was what she esteem'd more than Riches. The Marchioness of *Rambouillet* her Mother, who was so famous in her time, had her brought up amidst a great deal of Company that was every Day at her House, which was at that time a Receptacle not only for all the fine Wits, but for every one that attended the Court. She entertain'd all her Friends, whether Men or Women, in so genteel a manner, that it was impossible not to desire to please her; and such as were willing to have a little Pastime, went and diverted themselves at her House, more for the sake of the good Company that us'd to come there, than for the pleasure of any private Confidence, from which those that were reckon'd her Friends were debarr'd by the Croud that always attended her. The obliging Demonstrations she gave of her Kindness pleas'd all that saw her, and made them believe they shou'd find their account in her. It was said, however, she had one Fault: but she was sometimes privy to the Murmurs of People against her. What she was reproach'd with, was, that by her Civility and Complaisance, she was always willing to please even those that had no share in her Esteem; and such as thought they had deserv'd it, complain'd that, as far as they cou'd see, she gave it to all alike; that she enter'd into the Interest of too many People, and out of a Desire

of having numerous Friends, had indeed none at all. Others that spoke more favourably of her (and did her indeed Justice) were well enough pleas'd to think, that in her own Mind she made some Distinction between them and others : for considering her humour and manner of Life, which was always unsettled about Things external, she seem'd more devoted to publick Esteem than any private Friendship. This Lady was no Enemy to the Court, she was fond of general Approbation, but more especially of those that had Credit ; for naturally she had a great eagerness for all that's call'd *Favour*. She was marry'd when she came of Age to the Marquis of *Montausier*, who had been in Love with her fourteen Years ; and when she gave herself to him, she seem'd to do it more out of a Sense of his Merit, and the Obligations she had to him, than any Desire of Marriage. Then was this Lady advanc'd to the Place the King had given her, in hopes that by her Care and Prudence she wou'd make the *Dauphine* as great in Virtue as he was by Birth. The Queen-Mother was the only Person, who, tho she did not find fault, was not perfectly pleas'd with this Choice. She was afraid that *Madame de Montausier* wou'd not subject herself as much as was necessary to the sole Care of attending an Infant, and that she wou'd have other Thoughts to mind. She was a fitter Person, she thought, to manage an Assembly of Pleasure, than to take due care of a Cradle : but she resolv'd to keep her Thoughts within her own Breast, for fear of doing her an Injury ;
and

and when she heard her commended, she was equally silent. When Madame de Montausier came to thank her for the Honour the King had done her, the Queen-Mother, to shew her Sincerity as well as Prudence, said to her freely (as she did me the honour to tell me) that she had no hand in the Choice, and therefore did not deserve the Compliment.

Now the Queen-Mother saw her Desires accomplish'd, and being sensible of her Happiness, said aloud the Night after the Queen was brought to bed, "That God had now granted her all the Favours she desir'd, and that she had nothing more to request of him, but to save her Soul." I chuse to leave her in a State she thought so happy, beholding the King her Son crown'd with Glory, a Peace between him and the King her Brother, the Queen with a Son, and Madame her Daughter-in-Law big with Child: for she had then miss'd, in a great measure, the Comfort she might have expected from that Quarter; yet, what she suffer'd as a Mother-in-Law, and an ill requited Friend, was effac'd by the Character of being Monsieur's Mother, and by the Sentiments of her Mind, whose Goodness was great enough to excuse the Irregularities in favour of Youth itself, and such Faults as might almost be call'd innocent, because they were excusable from the universal Cause of all the Failings that the wisest People at that Age commit, and which by consequence seem'd at that time easy to be corrected.

The Philosopher mention'd by *Quintus Curtius*, in his Life of *Alexander*, who was willing to die, because being grown very sickly, he thought it a sign that the Gods had order'd him to put an end to his Life; seems to teach me, that I ought to have retir'd from Court, because Fortune hitherto had not been favourable to me, and because I had the ill Luck to displease the King: but it look'd as if I was still destin'd to be a Martyr to Ambition, by the hopes of obtaining a nearer Relation to the Court, which in all Probability seem'd design'd for me; for after I was almost assur'd of it, God suffer'd me to be disappointed, in order by his Grace to teach me by my own Experience, how much these imaginary Blessings cost us to attain them, and when attain'd, how bitter they commonly prove to the Mind of Man. The Queen-Mother, and particularly the Queen of *England*, had a mind to do me the honour of chusing me for a Governess to Monsieur and Madame's Children: And some Days after the Queen was brought to bed, those two great Princesses were pleas'd to speak to the King about it; but he oppos'd it. In complaisance to Madame, who cou'd not hate the Name of a Man that had suffer'd for her, he was for having Madame *de St. Chaumont*, Sister to the Marechal of *Grammont*, chose into that Place. The Kings's favourite Cabal, consisting chiefly of the Countess of *Soissons*, and of *Fouilloux*, Maid of Honour to the Queen-Mother, and her Friend and Confident, perswaded Madame also by no means to accept of a Servant out of the Queen-Mother's Family,

Family, whom this young Princess then both fear'd and hated. For all these Reasons, I cou'd not be acceptable to her, and much less to the Countess of *Soissons*, who afterwards own'd to me, that she did me on this Occasion all the Injury she thought due to an Enemy that had declar'd against her Interest. 'Tis true, that without being her Enemy, I had a Desire to serve the Duchess of *Navailles*, and I cou'd do no less, considering the Love she had for me; but I never approv'd of that violent Resistance she made against this Princess, which gave her so much needless Trouble: and tho I wish'd her well, I did not enter into her Passion. I told her my Thoughts very sincerely, none but she knew them; and tho she had Reason and Discretion enough not to reject them, yet my Fidelity to her, was not much set by, and brought a great deal of ill-will upon me from the Countess of *Soissons*, who knew nothing of my Sentiments: but this is no more than what commonly happens to People that act according to the Rules of Probity.

Monfieur was in a manner engag'd to *Madame de Chaumont*, by the Intercession of one of his * Favourites, who pleas'd him with the Agreeableness of her Raillery, and the Vivacity of her Temper, the common ways of gaining the good Graces of great Men; but being very much press'd by the Queen of *England*, he consented: notwithstanding all the Disgusts that had been infus'd into the King against me, he had so much Justice still

* *Mad. de La Baziniere.*

remaining for me, that in all likelihood he wou'd not have oppos'd me; for in the Presence of three * Persons, he spoke of me in so obliging a manner as was enough to comfort me under all my Misfortunes: but at last Madame's Refusal of me restor'd me to that State of Tranquillity, for which I was beholden to her; for when I came to consider this Charge and Engagement, the Loss of my charming Liberty gave me great Pain. In this Condition, I saw myself expos'd to the Misfortune of either losing the quiet Enjoyment of my Life, or the Honour that I desir'd. The latter of these happen'd to me; but I must own it, not without some severe Usage from my Enemies; and by a strange Contrariety of our Passions and Desires, I found myself hurt in being depriv'd of a Benefit that was enough to flatter my Self-interest, at the same time that I perceiv'd my self comforted by the hopes of enjoying perfect Tranquillity for the future. I then wish'd to cure my self entirely of all my Ambition, and took up a Resolution not to aspire after the Preferments we naturally desire at Court, and to content my self with performing my indispensable Duties to the Queen-Mother. In this I follow'd the Sentiments of my own Heart, which for some time had been quite out of conceit with the Creature, and those vain Trifles and Sins that had formerly engross'd it. The Queen-

* The Queen, the Duchess of Navailles, and Mad. de Be-
abune: Twas the Duchess of Navailles that told me so.

Mother,



of ANNE of AUSTRIA. 181

Mother, at that time, seem'd desirous to retire from the World; and as she had been often thinking of making *Val de Grace* the Place of her Retreat, and promis'd to take me with her, so great an Example was a sufficient Invitation to me to do the same; and God not only gave me the Grace to be willing to follow her, but to fall in with that great Queen's Sentiments, who notwithstanding the strong Desire she had to retire from Court, thought her self oblig'd to stay there still longer, not so much to support its Grandeur and Majesty, as to maintain Virtue and Piety, to hinder Pleasure from getting the Dominion over a young King that lov'd her very tenderly, and to preserve an Union among the Royal Family; and I thought it was not my Duty to leave the Court before her. The King's Court is like a great Market, where we are necessitated to go and trade for the Support of Life, and for the Interest of those to whom we are attach'd by Duty or Love. The Wise ought to go thither when Reason calls them; and it is not impossible, in my Opinion, to live there in so retir'd a manner, as to have Leisure to examine and search out the Means of overcoming and banishing one's own Weakness: tho' to speak Truth, when once we have found out the Vanity of a Court to any degree, 'tis commonly a great Fatigue to remain there: And the Soul that knows what is good, and follows it not, suffers a great deal; and to live continually at Court, a Man must have Desire and Hope to bear him up, or else his staying there is very unpleasant and painful.

All

All that the Strength of any Man's Mind can do, even when he is so successful as to have his Ambition satisfy'd by the Favours he receives there, is courageously to suffer the Martyrdom which his Reason, if he has any, finds in the Servility of Offices, the Incumbrance of Quality, the Support of Dignity, and the Opposition of such as are envious and Enemies.

This Year was concluded with the Terror that the Chamber of Justice erected for the Trial of the Superintendant, and of all such as were convicted of Misdemeanor in the Management of the King's Treasure, spread both in the Court and thro the City of *Paris*; because the strict Search they made into the Affair concern'd the greatest Families, both of the Sword and Gown, that were ally'd to them, and had made an Advantage of their great Riches. What surpriz'd me at that time was, that all my Life long I had heard People cry out against the Farmers of the King's Revenue, and against the Toleration which the two Cardinals *Richelieu* and *Mazarine* shew'd to those Men of Business, whom they us'd to call *publick Blood-suckers*; and yet I heard them now murmuring because this Conduct was chang'd. 'Twas generally believ'd that *Le Tellier*, who was a wise modest Man, and an Enemy to all Luxury and Vanity, advis'd Cardinal *Mazarine* to place *Colbert*, one of his Clerks, about *Fouquet*, who was of a different Humour from him, to watch his Conduct, and to put a Stop to his Extravagance: but this Minister being dead, and *Fouquet* setting all his Friends to work, not only to keep him in the Post he had, but to put

put him into that which was vacant; the King, who was prejudic'd against him, being acquainted with all the Intrigues he took to gain his Point, was easily induc'd to put in practise the Resolution he had taken, perhaps above six Months before, of having neither Superintendant nor Prime Minister any more; and *Le Tellier*, who was of Opinion, that as long as *Colbert* was in the Finances, he wou'd always own him for his Master and Benefactor, having reminded the King how the deceas'd Cardinal, to whom he had recommended him to manage his great Estate, us'd to speak of his Fidelity and good OEconomy. The King, after *Fouquet* was arrested, declar'd publicly he wou'd take care of his Revenues himself; and, for that end, he appointed *Colbert* his first Clerk, whom we saw (in a quite different manner from *Fouquet*) come all alone to the King, with a black Velvet Bag under his Arm, like one of the meanest perry Clerks in *Spain*. The old Courtiers wish'd the *Mareschal de Villeroy* might be made Superintendant; but his Fate was to be all his Life long nominated for the chief Posts, without ever enjoying them, and to bear the most honourable Titles in the Kingdom, without executing the Offices, tho' he was a Man of sufficient Abilities. Thus he had been the King's Governor, while the Cardinal *Mazarine* took the Care of his Education; was *Mareschal of France*, without the Command of any Army; and was also declar'd the chief of the Council of the Finances, without having any Credit there.

The Queen-Mother was, at the end of this Year, so very well, and I may add, so beautiful,

ful, that I had reason to hope she wou'd long continue the Ornament of the Court. But on the other hand, I perceiv'd her so very indifferent as to the things of this World, and so unwilling to concern herself with them, that I was apprehensive she was resolv'd very soon to retire for good and all, as I think I have some where mention'd she had before intended; for tho she still bore a Part in all the Pleasures that her Age wou'd allow her, yet it was only in complaisance to the King and Queen, chusing often to put a Force upon herself, rather than any Restraint upon them: And some discourse I had the Honour to have with her about the beginning of the Year 1662, left me no room to doubt of it. *edit h. nov. ed.* 1662. One Day therefore as I was with her alone, she seem'd very desirous to retire to *Vale de Grace*, there to meditate of nothing but her Salvation: and she assur'd me, that the only thing which retain'd her, was the Regard she had for the Queen, to whom she thought herself necessary; and also for Monsieur, whom she tenderly lov'd. "The King, she added, who was always dear to her, was become so capable, so happy, so content, and so great, that she thought she cou'd be of no manner of service to him; and that having nothing to do but to overcome the Love and Tenderness she had for him, she wou'd sacrifice them to God, and deprive herself of the Pleasure of being with him, in order to devote the rest of her Life to true Piety." Her Discourse was very affecting to me several ways; I took the freedom to tell her, that she was equally necessary to the King, the Queen, and

and Monsieur; and that for a mere notional Good, which tho it were certain did at best contribute to her own Quiet only, she shou'd not forgo all the Good that her Presence might do, not only to the Royal Family, by maintaining the same Union, among them which then subsisted, but to the whole Kingdom of *France*; by informing the King of some things, and reminding him of certain Truths that his Minister either durst not tell him, or had an Interest in concealing from him; and which she herself cou'd never know when she was separate from him: which things nevertheless, either then or at another time, might generally have a good Effect upon the King's Mind, who naturally lov'd Justice, knew the Value of Virtue, and had great Principles of Piety.

These Reasons of mine, I then thought, made some Impression upon her, and that at least they had prevail'd with her to defer the Execution of her Design, which was always hinder'd, as may be seen in the latter Part of these Memoirs, which I thought myself oblig'd to continue, in order to finish the Work I had began; that is to say, all the time I was with her, which was to that fatal Moment when I lost her. Those that read that Part of the Memoirs hereafter, will not find such great Events in it as in the other Parts, when *France* was vex'd with a War at Home, and employ'd in one Abroad; but to make them some amends, they will therein find the private Life of the Queen-Mother, the chief Point I stick to, together with the manner how the King liv'd with her, and with all the sacred

facred Personages that compos'd the Royal Family, during the four Years Sickness of that great Princess, who was not in a Condition to be seen. This is a Particular which those who write general History, will either not know, or not think worth putting down; and yet this very Article which they don't study, betrays the Secret of our Inclinations, points out our Character, and declares to the World whether we deserve Esteem or Blame. That's the very Reason why People have more Curiosity to know secret History, than what is transacted in the Face of the whole World, where we generally love to appear what we are not, and are always upon our Guard. These Dispositions of the Mind, which are rather our Passions than our Actions, and which we very often disclaim, or out of Modesty refuse the Honour of, when they are over, are found to keep pace with our good or evil Inclinations when they come to be discover'd: for 'tis the Heart which is either best or worst; when that is good, nothing is so good: but there are scarce any of this kind; most Men's Hearts are so corrupted with Interest and Pride, that it makes them commit Crimes; and he that appears the best, is over-run with Self-Love, which is the Cause of all the Weaknesses he can be guilty of, and of all the Follies that divert the Publick. The King is too wise to be ignorant of this, or to pretend that any one shou'd believe him entirely exempt; nor can he be ignorant that Kings have more difficulty to keep clear of this Error than private Men, and that the only way to avoid the
Shame

Shame of it, is to humble themselves before God, even more than other Men. This Year began with the Promotion which the King made of Sixty Knights of the Order of the Holy Ghost, and the Ceremony was perform'd as usual in the *Augustines* Church.

The Preparations made for the Carousal, which the King design'd to entertain the two Queens with, like to that which was made at the late King's Marriage, employ'd the Princes and those Lords that were nam'd to be at it a considerable time. The Queen-Mother, who did not see that which was made for her, gave us fine Descriptions of it, according as she had it from the old Courtiers; I saw no body then that cou'd inform me whether that which was celebrated at the Palace-Royal, was finer than this which was perform'd in the Square of the *Thuilleries*. It was compos'd of five Troops of Horse, that represented five Nations; the *Roman*, the *Persian*, the *Turkish*, the *Indian*, and the *American*. The King commanded the first, Monsieur the second, Monsieur the Prince the third, the Duke of *Anguien* the fourth, and the Duke of *Guise* the fifth. I shall not stay to relate the Order of their March, the Richness of their Habits, the Greatness of their Train, the Gallantry of their Devices, and the Diversity of their Colours: nor shall I say any thing more to set forth the Beauty of it, only that I was far from being tir'd at seeing it, and that the Count *de Sault*, Son to the Duke of *Lediguieres*, had the honour to win the Prize at running the Ring; for which he was applauded

plauded by all the Spectators, and had the Pleasure to receive a Diamond of considerable Value from the Hand of the Queen Mother, who was upon a Scaffold erected near the Palace.

After this Shew, which was something like the *Turnaments* heretofore so frequent in France, England, and Germany, and was so agreeable to the flourishing Youth of a Prince that had just given Europe Peace, and concluded a War which had been so glorious to himself; the private Diversions of the Court began to come again into Fashion.

The King, at that time, seem'd to have a strong Inclination to Mademoiselle *de la Motte Mondancourt*, Maid of Honour to the Queen. Whether she had less Share in his Heart than Mademoiselle *de la Faliere*, I cannot tell; but this I know, that she occasion'd a great Alteration at Court, more by the Power of her Intrigues than of her Beauty, tho' indeed she had enough of the latter to raise strong Passions.

The Duchess of Navailles thought herself oblig'd by the Duty of her Office (which was to take care of the Mails of Honour) to oppose the King's Amour, and spoke often to him about it, like a Christian and a good Woman. The King at first did not seem displeas'd with her little short Harangues; and if on other Occasions he seem'd dissatisfy'd with her, 'twas always done in so handfom a manner that she believ'd she had no reason to fear his Anger. Some time pass'd on thus; but at last the Desire of Victory, and that

Vexa-

Vexation which Opposition raises in the Minds of Men, and especially of Sovereigns, had got firm possession of the King's Heart. He let the Duchess of Navailles know, that it was at her Peril if she displeas'd him; sent her word by *Le Tellier*, not to concern herself any more with the Conduct of the Queen's Maids of Honour; and made her several Proposals that appear'd to be honest, how she might humour him. She still made answer to that Minister, that she cou'd not answer her Obligations if she abandon'd her Duty; and that as long as it shou'd please the King to continue her in her Office, she wou'd act in it to the best of her Power. Upon this the King was vex'd in good earnest, and told her, that she ought to be afraid of what he cou'd do against her, and to let the Consideration of her own Interest restrain her from disobeying him. She answer'd him, that she had already thought on that, that she foresaw all the Misfortunes which the Loss of his Favour cou'd bring upon her; and then enumerating the Places that her Husband and she had, she told him, that the Loss of all these wou'd not alter the Resolution she had taken to discharge her Conscience.

She conjur'd him moreover to seek abroad for the Objects of his Pleasure and Inclination, and not in the Queen's House, which was indeed his own; and she did it the rather, because he seem'd to have already made choice of one at home in the Person of *Mademoiselle de la Valiere*. The King grumbled at this, and seem'd to be vex'd and out of Humour;

but

but

but that Night, or the next Day, as she was leaning on the Silver Ballister in the Queen-Mother's Chamber, the King went up to this good Lady, and offer'd her his Hand, desiring in a soft gracious Air to be Friends with her: which was an Action not only becoming a great Prince that was willing to conquer himself, and to triumph over his own Weakness; but was done also like a Man of Honour, that had too much good Sense to refuse his Esteem where it was deserv'd. This open Indication of the King's Justice and Goodness gave me, I must own, a very great Joy: I look'd upon it, not only as an almost certain Presage of my Friend's good Fortune; and the more so, because it convinc'd us all, that the King, by a very valuable Sense of Virtue, had got the better of his Passion; which was of no little Consequence to the whole *French Nation*, because in him they had a King, who in other Cases of even greater Importance cou'd strive against himself in their favour.

The Duchess of *Navailles*, a good while after this, acted without Constraint, according to all the Rules that Honour prescrib'd her; and the King seem'd very well satisfy'd with her. He continu'd nevertheless to visit *Made-moiselle de la Motte Houdancourt* at the House of the Countess of *Soissons*, who did all she cou'd to inflame his Passion. This Princess, who hated the Duchess of *Navailles*, being no longer able to please the King herself, was willing to keep his Favour by all the ways that her Ambition cou'd suggest: She made a Jest of the Virtue of the Lady whom she
hop'd

hop'd to ruin, was always railing against her to the King, and laughing at his Weakness in bearing with her; by which ill Offices, and the dangerous Application of a Lady that he took to be his Friend, she increas'd his Love, and in the same Proportion diminish'd his Virtue. A thing that often befalls great Men; who besides the Passions of their own Hearts, which they have to struggle with as well as other Men, have enough to do to encounter the Passions of those that have access to them.

The King's Heart was full of those human Miseries which are, in our Youth, the mistaken Happiness of good-natur'd People. He suffer'd himself to be led by his Passions, and was resolv'd to gratify them. He was then at *St. Germain's*, and had got a Habit of going into the Apartment of the Maids of Honour; and when the Lady of Honour was so secure, that she forbid him to come there any more, he us'd to talk with *Mademoiselle de la Motte Houdancourt* thro a Hole that was in the Wainscot Partition. Hitherto the King acted like a private Man, and suffer'd all these Obstacles, without exerting his Authority; but as his Passion grew stronger, he made the Duchess of *Navailles*, who by the Force of the Laws of Honour and Virtue had Courage to resist him, still more uneasy. One Day she follow'd the Queen-Mother, as she went from *St. Germain's* to *Val de Grace* to perform her Devotions, on purpose to consult one of the most famous Doctors, then at *Paris*, about what had pass'd in the Apartment of the Maids of Honour: She saw plainly that

she must either displease the King, and entirely sacrifice her Fortune to her Conscience, or betray it for the Preservation of the Honours and Emoluments that she and her Husband were possess'd of; and as she was not insensible of the Advantages they both had at Court, she felt, upon that account, all that Nature cou'd suggest to her. I was then at *Paris*, and went to *Val de Grace* to pay my Duty to the Queen; there I saw my Friend, and in all her uneasiness she told me the Condition she was in by reason of the King's violent Inclination for that young Lady, and that she had been to consult a pious and learned Man (*Monf. Foly*) upon that Subject, whose Answer was decisive, that she was oblig'd to forego all Advantages rather than fail in her Duty by any criminal Complaisance. She seem'd resolv'd to follow his Counsel, but it was not without shedding abundance of Tears, and suffering such Agony as was unavoidable from those two great Extremes; being under necessity to chuse one of those two human Resolutions, that are always so opposite to one another; that is to say, either the Desire of eternal Riches, as a Christian shou'd, or the Enjoyment of things for the present Season, according to the Dictate of Nature.

When I spoke of the Dispute that was between the Duchess of *Navailles* and the Countess of *Soissons*, (tho I had sufficient reason to complain of the latter) I nevertheless blam'd my Friend in many things upon her account, according to the Rule I had laid down to myself, to listen neither to Friendship nor Hatred, and at all times to speak what I thought

to be the Truth; yet on this occasion, I cou'd not but commend the Motives whereupon the Duchess of *Navailles* acted, and which persuaded her that she ought to follow Mr. *Jolly's* Opinion, whom she had consulted.

At her Return to *St. Germain's*, her Spies told her that some Men, who made no bad Appearance, had been seen at Night upon the Gutters, and in some Chimneys, which from the Roof might carry such Adventurers into the Chamber of the Maids of Honour. The Duchess of *Navailles's* Zeal was on this occasion so great, that without giving herself time to consider of a means that wou'd with less Noise prevent what she fear'd, she immediately caus'd those Passages to be stopp'd with little Iron Grates; and by this Action she preferr'd her Duty to her Fortune, and the Fear of offending God, weigh'd more with her than the Pleasure of being agreeable to the King, who shou'd no doubt, as well as other great Men, have his Share in the most delightful Pleasures at Court, when they may be had with Innocence.

The Countess of *Soissons* had no Love for Mademoiselle *de la Valiere*, because she had entirely robb'd her of her remaining Favour with the King: Ambition, Love and Jealousy, those three strong Passions of the Soul, made a terrible Disorder in hers; being little instructed, and as little affected with the Maxims of Christianity, she was much dissatisfy'd in being their Confident no longer; and to remedy this, was willing to bring Mademoiselle *de la Motte Houdancourt* into the King's Company,

thereby to recover some Share in his Secrets ; and as her Design was to engage the King in this Amour, so she took all possible Pains to enrage him against the Grates which were made, as she said, more to contradict and affront him, than out of any Scruple of Conscience: Her Design was to get again into Favour, and to revenge herself of Mademoiselle *de la Valiere* and the Duchess of *Navailles*, two Persons she thought herself oblig'd to hate ; the one for the Change in the King's Affections, and the other for the sake of her Place. 'Tis not at all to be wonder'd at, that the King, by such artificial Flatteries, was at last provok'd against the Duchess of *Navailles* in good earnest ; and that he shou'd say, he only carry'd on that Adventure on purpose to vex her, and that she was too great a Pretender to Virtue to be borne with any longer. But as he had in all things a marvellous Command over himself, he did not then shew all his Resentment about these Grates ; the Uneasiness they gave him, he conceal'd under an Air of Raillery and Scorn ; but he did not forget them, and his Memory had afterwards a sad effect upon those who had presum'd to oppose him. I am of the Opinion however, that had it not been for the Intrigues of the Countess of *Soissons*, the King's Reason and good Nature wou'd have easily eras'd what his Memory suggested against such good People as he naturally esteem'd, and that such his Esteem wou'd have got the better of his Hatred. The King complain'd to the Duke of *Navailles*, for not restraining his Wife from disobliging him,

him, and blam'd him too for seeming to approve her Conduct; but the Queen-Mother commended both, and often exhorted the Duchess of Navailles to continue to act virtuously, assuring her withal, that a time wou'd come when the King wou'd give her Thanks for it.

Mademoiselle *de la Valiere*, who doubtless was not pleas'd with these Stories, because they inform'd her of a Rival in the Person of Mademoiselle *de la Motte Houdancourt*, gain'd an Advantage according to her vain Desires from the Duchess of Navailles's Virtue; and was so successful in her Charms, that notwithstanding the Applications of the Countess of *Soissons*, and the pressing Instances of the Marquis of *Aluye*, and the Marquis of *Fouilloux* his Friend, who were that Lady's Seconds in the Enterprize, the King was weary of contending with the Lady of Honour, and seem'd at length to apply himself only to her, who had been destin'd to the long Possession of his Favour. What contributed very much, as 'tis said, to fix the Destiny of Mademoiselle *de la Valiere* was, the other's ballancing some time in favour of Virtue; while she, on the contrary, taking no care to defend herself, conquer'd by her Weakness, and triumph'd over her, who disputed with her for that great Prince's Heart: but I can speak of this with very little Certainty, because I was Confidant to neither of them.

While the King thus allow'd himself to range where his Desires led him, the Queen suffer'd a great deal. She knew nothing of

what had pass'd, for by the Queen Mother's Order, the King's Gallantries were all conceal'd from her. Her Lady of Honour, that was faithful both to the King and her, contented herself with doing her Duty every where, and said nothing that might afflict her; but the Heart which is not deceiv'd, and has its Instructions from Truth, made her guess so shrewdly, tho she did not exactly know it, that Mademoiselle *de la Valiere*, whom the King then only lov'd, was the Cause of her suffering, that it was impossible to conceal her unhappiness from her.

At my Return from a short Journey I made at that time into *Normandy*, I found the Queen brought to bed of Mad. *Anna Elizabeth* of *France*; and one Night as I had the honour to be by her on the Bed-side, she gave me the Wink, and having shew'd me Mademoiselle *de la Valiere* as she pass'd thro her Chamber to go to Supper with the Countess of *Scissans*, with whom she had renew'd a Friendship, either feign'd or real, she said to me in *Spanish*, * *Esta Donzella, con las Aracades de Diamante, es esta que el Rei quiere*. This very much surpriz'd me, for the Secret was, at that time, the great Talk of the Court: I made the Queen a confus'd sort of Answer, that signify'd neither *Tes* nor *No*; and then, to fortify her for the time to come, I endeavour'd to persuade her, that all Husbands,

* She with the Diamond Pendants is the young Lady whom the King loves.

without loving their Wives a bit the less, are us'd to be a little false that way, or seem to be so, merely to follow the Mode. The Queen, who knew no doubt that we were not allow'd to confess any thing to her, answer'd nothing to what I said; but she was nevertheless melancholy. I went immediately and told the Queen-Mother this little Secret, assuring her that the Queen was more discreet, and less ignorant than she was thought. From hence it was easy to judge, that all the Tears she then shed, and as it seem'd for mere Trifles that did not deserve them, proceeded undoubtedly from her sensibleness of an Evil that she durst not complain of. The Love she had for the King begat her Jealousy, and her Jealousy begat her Melancholy.

In the first Year of the Queen's Marriage, the King was very tender of her, and very sensible of the lawful Passion she had for him; but as soon as his Love began to fall away, she that was the Object of it soon perceiv'd it: She needed no Confidant to inform her of the Secret; before she knew the Cause of it she felt its Effects, and us'd oft to say to the Queen-Mother, crying very bitterly, that the King did not love her. When afterwards she was as it were certain of this Change, by her Knowledge of the Love he had for *Made-moiselle de la Vatiere*, she was for a long while in a very deplorable Condition, her Heart was in such an Agitation, that it sometimes seem'd as if it wou'd beat out of her Breast; shewing thereby, that it cou'd not be at rest, without being reconcil'd to the very Person of whom

she complain'd. The King knew most of her Complaints, and was sometimes concern'd at them ; but being neither able, nor willing to reform, carry'd it off with the Excuse of his Independency, which he made great use of, and apply'd as an easy Remedy to all these petty Misfortunes.

This Year, in the Month of *October*, the King bought of the King of *England*, the Towns of *Dunkirk* and *Mardyke*, with all the Cannon and Warlike Stores that were in them, for five Millions, payable at different times ; but, after the first Payment, that Prince wanting Money, made great Abatements to have the rest : so that this important Place cost the King but little Money, and shew'd his Opulence and great Ability, as it did the King of *England's* Weakness, for so small a matter to part with a Place, that was an Inlet both into *France* and *Flanders*, and enabled him either to help *France* or *Spain* as he thought fit : and *Estrades*, who was employ'd in this Negotiation, told me, that the People of *England* murmur'd much at it.

About the end of this Year died Madame *Anne Elizabeth* : This young Princess wou'd have been a fine Creature had she liv'd ; but a Defluxion carry'd her out of the World in the first Month of her Life. The King and Queen had her baptiz'd, and gave her the Names of two great Princesses, that of the Queen, Mother to the King, and that of the late Queen of *Spain*, Mother to the Queen, as I have just now nam'd her. The King tenderly bewail'd her, the Queen was deeply afflicted ;

afflicted; and the Queen-Mother reflecting on this Death with such wise Sentiments as her Piety dictated, begg'd the King, with Tears in her Eyes, to let her carry the Heart of this young Princess to *Val de Grace*, where she desir'd to leave her own after her decease. As all the Royal Family was coming from the Chamber where this young Princess had just expir'd, the Queen-Mother said to them, that it griev'd her much to part with her Granddaughter just in the beginning of her Life; that it was much to be wish'd that God wou'd take her also, who had not many Years to live, and whose Life was now become useless to her own Family, as well as others. These words drew fresh Tears from the Eyes of the King and Queen, and touch'd Monsieur to the quick. I was not there that Moment, I came a little while after; but Monsieur did me the honour to repeat them to me, weeping bitterly: and the few that were with their Majesties and heard them, spoke to me of them, with the sad Impression still upon their Hearts; for it look'd as if this generous Princess had sentenc'd herself to death, and foreseen the short time she was to continue upon Earth, where, according to her Years, and the State of her Health, she might have promis'd herself the duration of a long old Age. The next Day she herself carry'd the Heart to *Val de Grace*, and giving it with her own Hand to the Abbess, *Mother*, said she, *this is an Heart that I bring you to be join'd with mine very soon.*

Not long after the Death of this young Princess, a Letter was brought to *Señora Molina*, a *Spanish* Lady, and chief Waiting-Woman to the Queen, that seem'd to come from the Queen of *Spain*, was supercrib'd with her own Hand, and directed to the Queen. *Molina*, who had been a Servant in the Court of *Spain*, soon knew the Hand; but when she saw that it was not well folded up, she wonder'd that it was some how or other different from the rest. This Letter was brought to her as from the Count *de Brienne*, Secretary of State; but usually all Letters from *Madrid* came by the *Spanish* Ambassador's Couriers: so that this Reason, and its being not like the rest, seem'd to her very odd. She had heard that the King of *Spain* was not well, and therefore fearing to give the Queen any unnecessary uneasiness (tho it was not her custom to open those Letters) God, who protected her Innocence, inspir'd her with a Curiosity to see what was in this. Therefore when she had open'd it, she found that it was wrote in a *French* Character, quite different from the Supercription, in bad *Spanish*, mix'd with *French* Phrases; but it contain'd the well known Stories, wherein the King and *Mademoiselle de la Valiere* bore the chief Parts. As soon as she had read it, she admir'd the Providence of God that had averted all that Danger, and went immediately to shew it to the Queen-Mother. This Princess advis'd her to go and carry it to the King; she did so; and that very Moment went and knock'd at the Door of his Closet, where he was

was in Council. She told him, she had just receiv'd that Packet, and that as God wou'd have it, she had open'd it, without shewing it to the Queen. *Molina* told me, just afterwards, that when the King read the Letter, he colour'd, and seem'd surpriz'd at the Discovery; for he cou'd hardly think there was a Person in his Kingdom so daring, as to meddle in his Affairs against his Will. Under the Concern he was in, the King ask'd *Molina* very bluntly, whether the Queen had not seen the Letter; and when she had more than once told him that she had not, he put it in his Pocket, and took great care of it. The Intimacy I had with the Duchess of Navailles, whom the King look'd upon as an extravagant Reformer of Mankind, made him suspect that I had wrote the Letter; but as I was as great a Friend of *Molina's*, whom, if she had displeas'd him, he wou'd certainly have sent back into *Spain*, he suspended his Judgment upon the matter; and in this Uncertainty, his Passion broke out upon no body. We liv'd however to see him very justly punish the Authors of this sorry Invention, who chanc'd to be those very Persons that he honour'd most with his Confidence and Favour: They were as perfidious to him as others, who he thought did not pay him due Respect, were zealous for his Service.

1663. Time, which always runs on insensibly, brought us to the beginning of the Year 1663, wherein Diversions were frequent, and accompany'd with those Passions that draw on Intrigues. Nor is it to be wonder'd at: a King

powerful in Peace, and immensely rich, a fine Gentleman, handfom, young, and generous, was the Life of all the Pleasures, and the Cause of all the Misfortunes and Troubles. His Wealth and Greatness inspir'd the Souls of Men with Ambition; his fine Qualitiës gave all the Ladies Pain, and the different Agitations wherewith they were possess'd, produc'd such insatiable Desires as prov'd their Torment. Both Sexes aspir'd to the Happiness of pleasing him; and all from different Motives, coveted a Share in his Favour and Affections: but as a Prince, tho ever so powerful, is limited in his Favours, and can love but imperfectly, those Desires and Enjoyments which carry their Poison with them, often fill their Souls with bitterness, when in the Vanity of their Thoughts and Amusements they seek for Satisfaction.

If any Man upon Earth can be happy, the King was: his Affairs were in a good Condition, his Armies were ready to engage any that durst break the Peace, and become his Enemy; and such Pleasures flow'd in upon him, as seem'd then to give him entire Satisfaction. But he was a Christian, and in that single Word, all he had to fear hereafter was comprehended; and as it is probable that he sometimes thought on these things, there is reason to believe, that tho he had less to make him uneasy than others, yet his Felicity was not more solid.

The Queen, who lov'd the King as much as he deserv'd, continu'd to suffer much from the Fear she had that the King did not love her

her enough : but the Queen-Mother comforted her, by the care she took to divert her ; as she did on one of the last Days of the Carnival, upon an Occasion, wherein the exact Decorum she always us'd to observe in every thing, gave way to Vexation and Love : To Vexation, in that the King publicly refus'd to take the Queen with him to the *Malquerade*, and prefer'd *Mademoiselle de la Valiere* ; and to Love, because in order to cure the Queen's Heart, which was sensibly wounded with Grief, she promis'd to go with her herself : so that after she had spent the Day very devoutly at the *Grand Carmelite's*, she came to wait upon the Queen, who was come into my Chamber in the Palace, with a fine Company of Maskers, all in antique Habits, waiting till 'twas time to go to the Ball at Monsieur and Madame's Apartment ; because none but Persons in disguise were allow'd to be in that Assembly. The Queen-Mother led her in, being dress'd in a black Taffety Veil, after the *Spanish* manner, which she put over the rest of her Clothes that she had worn all Day ; and she affected this Gaiety on purpose to please the Queen, who was so good and prudent that she wou'd take no Diversion, unless either the King, or the Queen her Mother and Aunt, was with her. Some precise People, that saw only the external Part of this Action, murmur'd against the Queen-Mother for it ; but her Motives were innocent, and the tender Affection of which a Mother is capable, ought to be an Excuse for the Fault of it. She knew that she had been blam'd for it ;

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but the virtuous Princess bore the Confusion with Meekness, and did me the honour to tell me in confidence, that she was persuaded there was reason for the Blame, and acknowledged that the great Love she had for the Queen had bias'd her too much on that Occasion.

The *Lent*, which follow'd these Days of merry-making, was observ'd very religiously by the Queen-Mother, who fasted with even more Austerity than other People, tho' her Age might have pleaded a Dispensation. She was much disorder'd by it, and when *Easter* came, was oblig'd to own she cou'd hold out no longer: but soon after the Holy days she recover'd her good Complexion, and seem'd as well as cou'd be; yet that Appearance of Health did not last long. On the 10th of *April* she began to be ill, had a great Weariness in her Arms, Pain in her Legs, was sick at Heart, and in a Fever. The next Day, making slight of her Illness, she told us she was much better, and only kept her Chamber; but all the Day she look'd not well. She had a Fever upon her all next Day, and was let blood at Night: The next Day her Fever turning into a *Tertian*, she had a violent Fit, attended with a Delirium, an Oppression, and a Pain in her Head. Immediately the Royal Family was in a Fright, the King seem'd uneasy, Monsieur's Heart trembled for fear, the Queen was in Tears, Madame not near so brisk as she us'd to be, and the whole Court was cast down.

down. On the ninth Day of her Illness, she was blooded the fifth time, and being weaken'd with this great Loss of Blood, as she was getting up that Day to have her Bed made, she found herself very ill. Monsieur had her by one Hand, and the Countess of Flew (Lady of Honour to the Queen-Mother) by the other: and when that lovely Prince saw that the Queen his Mother was fainting, by reason of her Weakness, and that he was not able to hold her up, he nimbly slid himself under her, for fear she shou'd be hurt. The Queen, who never left her, ran in a Hight to the King, who was in the Bathing-Room, crying out, *That she was undone, and that the Queen her Mother was dead.* The King, who in all his Mother's Illness, and particularly in this, shew'd the tender Affection of a good Son, went in immediately to her, help'd to raise her up, and seeing her Spirits come again, was ravish'd with Joy; and running to tell the Queen, who was still crying, brought her back again to her illustrious Mother, where they stay'd very much afflicted at her Condition.

The Queen-Mother, finding her Distemper increase, desir'd to talk with the King in private. After they had had a long Conversation, Monsieur went to her, and said, that he was afraid the tedious Discourse she had had with the King had made her Head-ache: She told him, No, that she did not repent of it, that she was very well pleas'd with it, and wou'd not for a great deal, but have had it. The next Day she confess'd, and receiv'd the Sacrament, and

and bid her Confessor come every Day at Four a-Clock to pray and discourse with her. The Countess of *Flex* and I told her, at that time, that we were impatient to see her well again, and that the Physicians had told us, (which was very true) it wou'd not be long first; She answer'd, God's Will be done; and neither in that Illness, nor in her last, which was much worse, did we ever hear her make any Complaint of what she suffer'd. Her Distemper remain'd, and the Fits of it became so violent, that the Physicians thought it wou'd turn to a continual Fever; but it prov'd a Double-Tertian, and held her a long time: Till *Whitsonide* her Distemper hung upon her, without being better or worse. Then, *viz.* May 13, it was propos'd to give her a Vomit, but she wou'd not hear of it. The King sat up with her many of those Nights, when 'twas fear'd her Fits wou'd be most violent: he order'd a Quilt to be brought and spread upon the Carpet, that was at the Feet of her Bed, where he often lay down with his Clothes on. I sat up one of those Nights both with him and the Queen-Mother; and having look'd upon him a while, as he slept, I cou'd not but admire his Tenderness of Heart, and his other great Qualities, that are seldom to be found with so much Greatness: and notwithstanding all the Sorrow and Uneasiness I was in, the Sight of him put me in mind of those Heroes represented in Romances, sleeping in Woods, or on the Banks of the Sea; and passing from these light Thoughts to others that were more solid, and more suitable to our Circumstances, I
cou'd

cou'd not forbear wishing him all the Blessings of Heaven, both in this World and in the next. I hope God will bestow them all upon him, and that according to his Promise he will recompense with long Life, a Son, that in many Instances has so faithfully fulfill'd his Commands, with regard to a Mother to whom he gave such unfeign'd Proofs of his Love and Respect. He always assisted her with incredible Application, help'd to change her Bed, and serv'd her better and more dextrously than all the Women: And the Queen his Mother taking notice one Day of his Care, Concern and Diligence, together with Monsieur's infinite Tenderness, who never once left her; she said aloud, *That she had good Children, and seem'd heartily pleas'd with the Proofs that she had in this Sickness of their Affection.* The Physicians pressing her a second time to take a Vomit; she answer'd them, *That since her Illness still continu'd, and that the publick Prayers which had been put up for her, and for her Health, had not prevail'd, it was reasonable to believe that God was willing she shou'd be sick; that she wou'd consent to take the ordinary Medicines, but wou'd have no other; and that she desir'd to suffer her Affliction as long as God shou'd think fit to lay it upon her.*

On the 40th Day of her Sickness, the Physicians, urg'd by the Servants, who were always telling them how other People had been cur'd of the same Distemper by the Pouder of Vipers, made as if they wou'd give it her; but as they are a sort of People that usually disap-

disapprove every thing they do not practise themselves, they gave her at last the Jesuit's Bark: That Medicine took away her Fever; that is, it made it cease a little, by stopping the Humour; but it left her full of Vapours, accompany'd with a sort of Drowsiness that seem'd dangerous. In this Condition she continu'd sixteen Days by their Order, without being purg'd, for fear the Operation of the Physick shou'd occasion a Return of the Fever.

The Queen, at the same time, had the Meazles; but it was of no ill Consequence, and she soon recover'd. The King, when he saw her better, was for carrying her to *Versailles* to take the Air: but, as in the first Days of her Sicknes, he had never left her Bed-side, and was continually about her, he was no sooner arriv'd at *Versailles* than he was taken with the same Distemper, and much more dangerously; for, in the Opinion of *Valot*, his chief Physician, he was threaten'd with speedy Death. The King, who soon perceiv'd the Danger he was in, call'd *le Tellier* to him, and told him that he found himself in a bad Condition, and that he must go and acquaint the Queen his Mother with it: and when *le Tellier* answer'd, that she herself was too ill, to give her any further Disquiet, he reply'd, *That signifies nothing, she must know it.* His Illness however was so soon over, that there was no Necessity to obey him; for in a few Hours he was much better, and God restor'd that King to his Health whom all France had much need of. I learn'd this the
very

very next Day from *le Tellier*, in a Conversation I had with the *Duchess of Navailles* and him, with this Addition, That the Night before, when the King thought himself in Danger, and was speaking of his Sickness, his Kingdom, and his Affairs, he bewail'd his Son whom he was like to leave so soon; and after considering what Persons were proper to leave in the Regency, he said, *That the Queen his Mother, in all appearance, wou'd never have her Health: That his own Queen was too young; that Monsieur seem'd not to be in humour as yet to apply himself to Business; that he was afraid of Mons. the Prince; and that his Eye was upon the Prince of Conti, because he was a virtuous and good Man.* This shew'd what Esteem he had for true Devotion, and must give good People Grounds to hope, that God at one time or other will give him the Grace to be affected with it himself.

After the Physicians had purg'd the Queen-Mother, her Fever return'd with more Violence than ever; which Relapse made them resolve to give her a Vomit. The King who was now return'd to her, perfectly cur'd of his Distemper, which, tho' violent, was short, pray'd her very earnestly to take the Medicine, for which she seem'd to have a great Aversion: Her Confessor likewise told her, that it must be done, and that she wou'd by so doing be so far from opposing the Providence of God, that in case she did it for the Love of God, the Action wou'd be praiseworthy: which made her immediately resolve
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to do it; and after she had taken it twice, she was by this last Remedy entirely cur'd.

The Recovery of this precious Health, occasion'd great Joy at Court; for the Fear of losing the Queen-Mother had damp'd the Hearts of all good People: The Poor look'd upon her as their Mother, and the Afflicted as their Protectress. On the Days when she was in danger, the Churches were always fill'd with People of all Ranks, who begg'd of God to spare the Life of this virtuous Princess. Upon Holidays and Sundays, her Guard-Room and Anti-Chamber were fill'd with Tradesmen; who, instead of going a walking as usual, came in Crouds to know how she did; and in the very Streets wou'd enquire what News about her, with all the Earnestness and Tendernefs imaginable; God in his great Wisdom, no doubt, ordering it so, that she might receive of that People who heretofore had unjustly affronted her, a publick Reparation of their former Offences, which their present Affection and true Repentance obliterated in a manner that tended much to her Glory.

As the Queen-Mother began to recover, her Family were one Night sitting round her Bed, when the Discourse happen'd to turn upon Women's Jealousy; whereupon the Queen ask'd Madame, whether she shou'd be of a jealous Humour in case Monsieur gave her just reason; and when Madame told her that she shou'd not, she made answer, that it was indeed to no purpose; that every Day's Experience had taught her, that Women's Resentment

ment did but harden the Hearts of their Husbands, and that what shou'd be agreeable to them, as a Token of their Love, was but irksome and displeasing to them. The King, to divert the Discourse, ask'd Mad. *de Bethune*, the Queen's Tire-woman, a modest honest Lady, but who had no Share at all in natural Parts, whether she was ever jealous of her Husband? She answer'd, No, and that he had always been true to her Bed: whereupon the Queen smil'd, and in a very feeling, but gentle manner, said in *Spanish*, as she was rising up to go to Supper, * *Que en esto parecea bien la mas tosta de la Compannia, y que por ella no diria lo mismo.*

This Answer of the Queen gave the King to understand that she knew more than he imagin'd, and that her Silence was owing more to her Discretion, and the Fear of disobliging him, than to her Ignorance. Whether he was sorry for it, I cannot tell; for being resolv'd to love Mademoiselle *de la Valiere*, he wish'd perhaps, that the first Resentment of the Queen was over, that she might be accusom'd to bear it; hoping that her Uneasiness might wear out in time, which effaces the Memory of all things under the Sun. This Cure was not yet come to Maturity; that Princess was often crying, but the Queen-Mother was always assuring her of the King's Esteem, and advising her not to be troubled about any thing else. The Duchess of *Nava-*

* That in this she seem'd to be the greatest Fool in the Company, and that for her own Part she wou'd not say so.
illes,

illes, her Lady of Honour, told her the same; and moreover generously sympathizing with the Queen her Mistress's Grief, she us'd often to tell the King what just Cause she had for her Uneasiness. The King having accusom'd himself to be Master in his Dominions, resolv'd to be so over the Minds, Wills, and Hearts of his People, and to make them not only love, but fear him. He sometimes answer'd this Lady in the Language of an absolute Husband that wou'd not bear to be controul'd; but these harsh Words were questionless intended for her more than for the Queen.

The great Attachment of the Duchess of Navailles to the Queen, still displeas'd the King; and all these Disgusts together daily added to her future Misfortune: she was however so faithful to the King, as to vindicate him in his absence to the Queen: but as he was ignorant of her Sentiments, and saw her positive that the Queen had reason to complain, he imagin'd that she was the Cause of some part of her ill Humour; and these Thoughts, together with the former Disgusts he had conceiv'd against her, had their usual Effect, and at length occasion'd her Disgrace.

The Countess of Soissons having not succeeded in her Design of gaining the King's Affections for one of her Friends, was uneasy at what she had done; she fancy'd that the Duchess of Navailles might possibly have done her discredit with the Queen, and have inform'd her of the Design she had laid in favour of Mademoiselle de la Motte Houdancourt: therefore, to remedy this imaginary Evil, she
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purpos'd to tell the Queen as a Secret what had pass'd on that Subject. It was said (but I do not certainly know it) that she desir'd of the King, in order to repair the ill Offices which the Dukes of *Navailles* had done, that he wou'd not take it ill if she was upon a Reserve with the Queen, by telling him something that cou'd give him no Uneasiness; because he had relinquish'd all Thoughts of it; and that the King, in confidence of her Fidelity, consented.

When the Queen-Mother was recover'd, the Queen us'd to go abroad for the Air, and usually her farthest Journey was to the little *Carmelites* in the *Street de Bouloy*; she lov'd Mother *de Reville*, the Governess of that Monastery, who, besides much Piety, had a great deal of Wit and Merit: 'Twas then and there that the Countess of *Soissons* obtain'd a private Audience of her, according to her Request. The Intimacy of Madame and the Countess of *Soissons* still went on; while the Queen continu'd on her part to hate Madame, and was always accusing her as the Person that robb'd her of the King: for after the time that he fell in love with *Mademoiselle de la Valiere*, he was perpetually at her House. Madame, on the other hand, who had no great Pleasure in being hated for another's sake, was willing that the Queen shou'd know the whole of the King's Amours, whereof she had some Suspicion; but all Appearances had hitherto been so carefully conceal'd from her, that it was no wonder she had not a perfect Knowledg of them. For this reason,

reason, Madame contributed to the Countess of *Soisson's* Design, of declaring to the Queen all that had pass'd, and of finishing, by that means, what the Letter given to *Molina* (the Authors of which were not known till a long while after) cou'd not do.

This Conversation of the Countess of *Soissons* with the Queen was of great Importance, as well in its Consequences, as for the Thoughts it then produc'd in the Queen's Mind: by this means, she came to know both the Love the King once had for *Mademoiselle de la Motte Houdancourt*, and (what she was not entirely ignorant of, but cost her many Tears when she came to know certainly) his present Passion for *Mademoiselle de la Valiere*. Her Heart gave her that it was betray'd; but it wou'd perhaps be some Satisfaction to her to have it to say to herself, *that she was mistaken*. Till then, she knew but little of the matter; for the Queen her Mother wou'd never own any thing. Her Favourite, *Sennora Molina*, was modest and discreet, and wou'd not add the Sorrow of Certainty to her melancholy Suspicion; the Duchess of *Navailles*, who faithfully serv'd God, the King, and her Mistress, had likewise made an inviolable Secret of every thing that she thought her Duty to conceal, and had not so much as spoke any thing to the Queen against the Countess of *Soissons*. That Countess being desirous to prevent an ill Office that was never done her, did a good one to her that she thought her Enemy; and did herself that Injury which she endeavour'd to avoid from others. The Queen was inform'd

inform'd by her of the Zeal and Fidelity of her Lady of Honour; and her Head being full of such things as are little in themselves, but great in their Effects, she return'd to the *Louvre*, and shutting herself into her Closet, told all to *Molina*: She saw that *Molina* knew all before; but when she consider'd that her Affection was the Cause of her Reservedness, she cou'd not blame her; for that faithful Servant often threw herself at her Feet, and with Tears protested that she wou'd never tell her any thing to afflict her, or to make Mischief between the King and her. As soon as my Friend was made privy to the Secret, I knew it from her that very Night: but she made me swear that I wou'd not tell it to any Soul. I was so faithful to my Promise, that I neither told the Queen-Mother of it, nor the Duchess of *Navailles*, who was the Person principally concern'd to know it: but the Queen (as she had good reason) cou'd not forbear letting her know that she was sensible of what she had done for her; and declar'd that it was very acceptable to her. The Queen-Mother being likewise inform'd of it, and perceiving that by these means she might convince the King of the Fidelity of the Duchess of *Navailles*, whose Conduct (as I said before) she approv'd, did not fail to acquaint the King with it. The Duchess of *Navailles*, by *le Tellier's* Advice, told it to the King likewise; but he seem'd surpriz'd at it, and ask'd her many Questions about it. *Vardes*, an intimate Friend of the Countess of *Saiffons*, coming that Instant into the Closet of the Queen-

Queen-Mother's Apartment, and seeing the King leaning on a Window, and talking very earnestly with the Duchess of Navailles, immediately gave notice of it to his Friend. They concerted Measures for their Defence, and the Countess of Soissons, to whom the King went from the Queen-Mother's Apartment, told him, that she thought fit to acquaint him, that in the Conversation she had with the Queen at the *Carmelites*, she perceiv'd that she had been inform'd of all that had pass'd; and in short, she made him believe, that the Duchess of Navailles had inform'd her. The King, who cou'd not clearly distinguish Truth from Lyes, was in doubt, not knowing whom to believe; and at Night when he went to bed, said to the Lady of Honour, that the Countess of Soissons had told him all. The Duke of Navailles being sadly afraid that the Duchess his Wife had done amiss in speaking to the King against the Countess of Soissons, had earnestly begg'd her to do her utmost to remedy that Fault. She fell in with his Opinion; and the Moment that the King seem'd to doubt of what she had told him, from a principle of Christianity, and in complaisance to her Husband, she was so good natur'd as to proceed no farther; and so, by neglecting to vindicate the Truth, gave her Enemies an Opportunity of entirely ruining her. The King, who was inclin'd to favour the Countess of Soissons, believ'd that the whole was a Story made on purpose to ruin her in his good Graces, and to conceal the Treachery which the Lady of Honour, as
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he imagin'd, had been daily practising against him with the Queen. He perswaded himself in fine, that if she had spoke, she had said nothing but what she had leave to say; and that all the rest came from Intrigues fomented by the Queen's Creatures: so that the King still remain'd satisfy'd with the Countess of *Soissons*, and very much displeas'd with the Duchess of *Navailles*; and 'twas at this time that the Innocent were sacrific'd to the Guilty, and I being a Friend to that Duchess, had no small share in her Misfortune.

The Queen-Mother was sometimes sensible of the Disgusts which the King easily conceiv'd against the Persons that she protect-ed; but it did not much disturb her. She said very calmly, that we shou'd always do well, and that the King had in the main too much good Sense, for any to fear his Resentment so long as they did their Duty. But notwithstanding her usual unconcernedness, she was astonish'd to see the King so indifferent about what she had told him of the Countess of *Soissons*; and when she did the Duchess of *Navailles* and me the honour one Day to speak of this matter to us, we all concluded that the Countess had acted by his Order. The false reasoning that we then ran into, made us believe that the King himself wou'd acquaint the Queen with what had pass'd: and what confirm'd us in that Thought was, our seeing the King not at all disquieted at these little Stories, and that the Queen's Complaints, which were redoubled, did not abate his assiduous Application to Mademoiselle

de la Valiere. The only Change that appear'd in his Conduct was, that instead of telling the Queen daily that he came from Madame's, he freely own'd to her that he had been elsewhere. This frank Acknowledgment gave him the Pleasure of being there longer, and returning later at Night than usual, while the Queen had scarce any room to complain: for such is the Unhappiness of our Sex, that Men who have made the Laws, have exempted themselves from all the Rigour of them; and 'tis only in Heaven, where such will be the Equality of the Command, that *every one shall receive according to his Deeds*.

In this State the Court continu'd till *December*, when the King call'd many Dukes to Parliament, who had simple Patents, and some that had none at all: Among the latter were the Marquis of *Montausier*, the Count of *Noailles*, and the Count of *St. Aignan*. The Duke of *Navailles*, who had a Patent of an older Date, was excluded from this Promotion, which very much afflicted him. The Queen-Mother resented it, and out of her generous Goodness, did all she cou'd to screen him from this terrible Blow. She pray'd, she talk'd, but the King wou'd not grant her Desires. He shew'd her his Pocket-Book, wherein he had, with his own Hand, wrote down the Reasons that he thought he had for electing some to this Dignity, and depriving others; he own'd, that as to the Person she protected, he esteem'd him an honest Man, and that he had done him good Service; but that he had displeas'd him, and he wou'd be reveng'd. The
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Queen-Mother did me the honour to tell me, that I might acquaint the Duke and Duchess of *Navailles*, who had desir'd me to speak to her about it, that she had try'd all her Efforts to overcome her Son's Resentment; but that she cou'd not succeed. While she was blaming her Son for persisting in that Weakness with so much Obstinacy, she told me, that as to all [the rest, whether it were the happy or miserable that he spoke of, he explain'd his Thoughts very lively, and that the Judgments which he made upon each of them were Signs of his Wit and Discernment; for even as to those whom he gratify'd, he not'd their Faults justly enough; but then they found a Remedy in his Will, which he prefer'd above all things: Those that he rejected, found in the same Source the Cause of their Misfortune, and endeavour'd to comfort themselves with hopes of more favourable Treatment for the time to come, which they might easily expect from a Prince of such Penetration, and who understood so exactly the Good and Evil that he did. The Duke of *Roquelaure* was one of those that were depriv'd of this Honour, and for trifling Faults too, of which I know not the Particulars. The Duke of *Navailles*, that honest Man, and known to be so by his Master, was ill treated, and the Grief that he felt cannot be express'd; but all Men that are susceptible of Ambition, can easily imagin the greatness of it. After some time, this Lord, who was willing to do his utmost to restore himself to the King's Favour, desir'd an Audience, which he obtain'd; and in his Con-

versation with him, omitted nothing that might please and affect him. He embrac'd his Knees, he pleaded his Innocence, which the King himself acknowledg'd; shew'd how glorious it wou'd be for him to forgive what he had taken ill of him, since he meant no harm; and told him that if he had been wanting in his Respect, it cou'd but at the most be imputed to his Imprudence, and to Sentiments for which he himself cou'd not but esteem him. In short, he did all that an honest good Man cou'd and ought to do to please his King, who seem'd touch'd with Compassion, and heartily willing to forget the virtuous Offences of both the Husband and Wife. The time came when the King us'd them better, and appear'd to be reconcil'd to them; but these happy Intervals seem'd to be always attended with a great deal of uncertainty: for notwithstanding the King's favourable Sentiments which his Reason often suggested to him, they found that their Enemies were incessantly labouring to ruin them, and that they were doing against them what Miners do under Bastions when they design to blow them up; and indeed their Labour at last prov'd not in vain.

At the same time, *i. e.* in the Winter that follow'd the Queen-Mother's Recovery, the King receiv'd the News of the Death of the Duchess of *Savoy* his Aunt. Eight days after that, died likewise the Duchess of *Savoy*, Daughter to the late Duke of *Orleans*, whose Fate was like that of a Flower, which blossoms in the Morning, and at Night withereth; and the

the Princess *Margaret*, who was propos'd to be our Queen, but instead of that Happiness, had the cruel Fate to be made Duchess of *Parma*, follow'd them soon after. Let us hence consider the Uncertainty of Human Grandeur in this World, and endeavour to improve ourselves by reflecting on the Death of these three great Princesses, the two last of whom were very young.

1664. In the Spring of the following Year the Court went to *Versailles*, where were the finest Entertainments possible, the King being minded to bury the Remembrance of the Queen's late Sickness, in Mirth and Pastime; but as in old Age Distempers commonly multiply, 'twas in this Journey of Pleasure that the Queen-Mother felt the first Pains of her Cancer. At first it appear'd like a little Kernel in her Breast, which gave her no Uneasiness, but was the Cause of her Death, for want of taking a Remedy in time. The Queen being then with Child, gave the Queen-Mother much greater Joy than her Malady gave her Pain; and her Joy was the more increas'd, by her seeing Madame, five or six Months gone in the same Condition.

This Journey, which was so promising in its Appearances, was attended with a great deal of Vexation: The Queen-Mother was displeas'd at some Airings, and took it amiss that Madame *de Brancas*, Wife to her Gentleman-Usher, kept Company with *Mademoiselle de la Valiere*; for till then, the Respect shewn to the two Queens had hinder'd all Ladies of Quality from appearing

with her. This Lady being blunt and free, and no great Observer of the Precepts of the Gospel, relating to the Love enjoind to our Neighbours, complaining to the King of the Reprimand the Queen his Mother had given her, told him that it was the Countess of *Flex*, and the Duchess of *Navailles*, that had incens'd the Queen-Mother against her; and rav'd sadly against their Virtue, which she maintain'd to be very ridiculous. The King was vext at the Mortification which the Countess of *Branças* had suffer'd for her Endeavour to do him a Pleasure; and this Trifle occasion'd a Coldness for some time between him and his Mother. As the Duke and Duchess of *Navailles* were already tottering in the King's Favour, this single Complaint that the Countess of *Branças* made, stuck so deep into the King's Heart, which was before so ill dispos'd to her, that it made an incurable Wound; and there is reason to believe that the Countess of *Soissons*, their inveterate Enemy, put such Colours upon it as did them no Service.

Not long after this, the King, Queens, and the whole Court went to settle at *Fontainbleau*, to spend part of the Summer there; and 'twas here that the King, upon some Answer that the Duke of *Navailles* made him about a matter of no great Consequence, relating to the Light-Horse which the Duke commanded, publickly shew'd his Resentment, and nothing wou'd satisfy but the Ruin both of him and his Duchess: They receiv'd an Order in *June*, he to resign the Government of *Havre de Grace*, and the Lieutenantcy of the Light-Horse;

Horse; and she the Place of Lady of Honour. But the King, when he remov'd them from Court, was loth to deprive them of what they had receiv'd and purchas'd there; and out of his Justice and Goodness, order'd them nine hundred thousand Livres in lieu of their Places.

The Queen-Mother, who was not apt to shed Tears, when the Duke and Duchess of *Navailles* went away, wept for their Disgrace, which she cou'd no ways prevent, notwithstanding all the Intreaties she made to the King in their favour. She was very sensible of their Misfortune every way; and not only so, but had herself the Mortification to see very plainly upon this Occasion, that she had not then any great Credit with the King. The Queen seem'd as much troubled as it was proper for her to be; she wept, and notwithstanding her usual timorousness, spoke of it to the King (as she did us the honour to tell us) in such a manner as the Love and Fidelity of the Persons she had lost deserv'd. She embrac'd the Duchess of *Navailles* at parting, and assur'd her she wou'd never forget her.

The Duchess of *Montausier*, who was till then Governess to the Children of *France*, was immediately put into the Post of the Duchess of *Navailles*. According to what I have wrote of that Lady, 'tis easy to judge that she cou'd not but be agreeable to the King, not only for her good Qualities, but because the Merit she had was entirely turn'd to the Mode of the World; and her Mind was more taken

up with the Desire of pleasing, and enjoying Favour here below, than with those wholesome Severities, from which, according to Christian Maxims, we may promise ourselves eternal Happiness.

The Marshal *de la Motte's* Lady, a good Woman, and of a good Family, was made Governess to the *Dauphin*, but not for her eminent Qualities; for to speak Truth, they were but indifferent in all things. She was Grand-Daughter to Mad. *de Lansac*, who was Grand-Daughter to one of our Kings; but that great Title wou'd not have advanc'd her to this Dignity if she had not been ally'd to *le Tellier*, as next Relation to the Heir-ess of *Souvre*, to whom he had lately marry'd his Son the Marquis of *Louvois*. Thro his Protection the Faults of the Marshal *de la Motte*, who had serv'd against the King in the Wars of the Regency, were quite forgot, and what his Widow wanted to fit her for this great Employ, was not observ'd.

The Queen-Mother was very much displeas'd with the Countess of *Branca*s for having the Confidence to complain to the King against her; and the tender Love she had for the King made her more deeply concern'd for the Coldness he shew'd to her after the Indiscretion of that Lady, whom she still mistrusted of failing in the Respect which she ow'd to him. The King and Queen-Mother at last fell out, and were visibly at Variance; for after the Disgrace of the Duke and Duchess of *Navailles*, her Anger broke out all at once,

once, and the Uneasiness she had upon that account made her more apt to resent other things; and the King for the same reason, and because he did not love those whose Loss she regretted, grew cholerick also, and declar'd his Displeasure against the Persons in whom the Queen his Mother had any Confidence.

At the same time that Princess took it amiss, that the King had determin'd an Affair which the Abbot *de Priere* had before the Council, contrary, as she pretended, to what he had promis'd her: The Abbot had a mind to reform his Order, and as the Queen-Mother was a Patroness of all good Designs, she was willing to favour this in particular, for she had an Esteem for his Piety. He was then sick, and she had desir'd the King to stay till he recover'd before he decided his Affair; but the King, out of pure Spite to her, (as the Queen his Mother perceiv'd) order'd the Cause to be determin'd in his absence, and said at the Countess of *Soissons's* House (when speaking upon this matter) that the Abbot *de Priere* was well, and that the Queen his Mother had not spoke truth, or some such thing that did not seem obliging. This was a Blow that wounded her in a sensible part; and this with the rest increas'd her Sorrow and Grief, which she declar'd to the King by her Silence, and by the Resolution she had taken to herself to quit the Court, and retire to *Val de Grace*. *Le Tëllier*, who knew how matters stood between the King and the Queen his Mother, did all he cou'd to reconcile them, and so did the Abbot *de Montaign*; but they

cou'd not succeed, for these two Royal Persons were both angry, and neither of them cou'd resolve to speak to the other. One Day, when their Misunderstanding was at the greatest height, the King being with the Queen his Mother in her Closet, Monsieur and Mademoiselle both went out on purpose to leave them alone, and so force one of them to speak. But the King, after he had stood a great while with his Face to the Window, made a low Bow to the Queen his Mother, and withdrew without speaking a word to her. I was not then at *Fontainebleau*, but I know as well as if I had been there, that this touch'd her very nearly, and that afterwards speaking to Monsieur of the King, with a Heart full of Sorrow, she said, *You see how he treats me*. After that, she went into her little Chamber, leaning on Monsieur to go upon the Terras-Walk, in order to avoid being seen by the Croud that waited in the great Room. There she pour'd out her Tears to the Prince, and said to another that was with her, (from * whom I had it not long after) *Do you think that the King and I spoke together in the Closet? I do assure you, No, and that we came out just as we went in*. That Night she wou'd not sup with her Family, because indeed she found herself not well. As the King was coming to her at Supper-time (for they still spoke to one another in publick) he met the Queen going to her own Apartment; in a great Surprize he ask'd her why she return'd before she had

* It was *Molina* the Spanish Lady.

supp'd ; she told him that the Queen-Mother bid her do so, because she was not minded to eat any thing. At this the King turn'd pale, and said not one word ; but following the Queen, who went to sup in her own Apartment, stay'd there leaning upon the Back of her Chair ; for he wou'd not sit down at Table. He put a good Face upon it before the Spectators, but his Heart (for which he was much to be valu'd) suffer'd a great deal, and much relented that he had not carry'd it well to a deserving Mother, who had always lov'd him so dearly, and whom till then he had always honour'd.

The next Morning Sennora *Molina* going into the Queen-Mother's Oratory, was much surpriz'd to find her all in Tears. *Molina* wou'd have withdrawn, fearing she had offended in the Liberty she had taken to open her Door, which scarce any one dar'd to do at her Hours of Devotion ; but she call'd her back, and without desiring to hide any thing of her Condition from her, made her a Sign to kneel down by her. She did so, and after she had ask'd her in *Spanish* what it was that troubled her, the Queen-Mother fixing her Eyes upon her, full of Grief and full of Tears, answer'd her only these words, * *Ab! Molina, estos hijos* ; and then having a little eas'd her Mind to her, she sent her away. That virtuous Princess, who sought for all the most solid Consolation that a Christian Soul cou'd find, had offer'd up her Devotions that same Day ;

* *Ab! Molina, these Children,*

and her Confessor order'd her to speak to the King first, and to give way no longer to her Anger or Sorrow, which she immediately resolv'd to do, as thinking it was but just in her to sacrifice all her Resentment to God. She thought therefore of nothing more than to speak to the King; but she did me the honour to tell me soon after, that it was not without some Reluctancy, and that the Humiliation she dreaded to go thro, cost her some Anguish.

The King on his part, from his good Nature, and from a Dissatisfaction with himself, went to her with a sincere Intention to be reconcil'd to her; but the impatience of the Queen-Mother to fulfil the Will of God, made her, as soon as she saw the Prince enter her Chamber, hasten all she cou'd to speak to him first; and (as she made me privy to every thing) she did me the honour to tell me, that she was very well pleas'd with the King, and that God fully recompens'd the Sacrifice she intended to have made to him: for the King spoke to her in a very obliging and submissive manner, ask'd her Pardon on his Knees, wept grievously for having offended her; and his Deportment shew'd a Mind so affectionate and respectful, that she had then reason to bless God for having given her * *Estos hijos*, who made her sometimes suffer, because no one is perfect; but who oftner gave her very great Cause of Joy and Consolation. The King own'd to her that he had not slept all

* Those Children.

Night for Grief that he had offended her; and as she had often signify'd to *le Tellier*, who acquainted the King of it, that she long'd to retire to *Val de Grace*, that illustrious Son instantly intreated her to think of it no more, and press'd her to give him her Promise that she wou'd never leave him. Thus these two Royal Persons imparting their Resentments and Repentance to one another, were better pleas'd, and more assur'd of each other's Love, than if they had never done any thing to violate their mutual Friendship; and by this Reconciliation were more certain of the Strength of it. The King communicated his Joy to *le Tellier*, and said to him (as that Minister himself told me, when I saw him) that if the Queen his Mother had not spoke first to him, he went to her with an intention to make all Advantages; and he confess'd to *le Tellier* that he found he cou'd not be easy without her, and that his Love for her was such, that it wou'd have oblig'd him, he thought, to do every thing to regain her.

After this happy Reconciliation, the Queen-Mother, who was a Christian as well as a tender Mother, immediately reassuming her Notions of Virtue and Wisdom, did not fail to remind the King of his Condition. She told him, *That he was too much intoxicated with his Grandeur, and that he set no Bounds either to his Desires or Revenge*: she represented to him likewise the danger he was in, with regard to his Salvation; and said in short all she cou'd to make him enter into himself, and to oblige him at least to desire Strength to
break

break the Chains that bound him to Sin. He answer'd her cordially with Tears of Grief that came from the bottom of his Heart, in which there were still some Remains of his former Piety, *That he was sensible of his Wickedness, that he felt sometimes Pain and Shame; that he had done all he cou'd to restrain himself from offending God, and from giving himself up to his Passions; but that he was oblig'd to own to her that they were become too strong for his Reason, that he cou'd no longer resist their Violence, and that he did not find in himself any Desire to strive with them.* He own'd that he had a long Dispute with himself, whether he shou'd ask the Ladies of Quality to keep Company with *Mademoiselle de la Valiere*; but that at last he had resolv'd it shou'd be so, because she desir'd it, and he begg'd of his Mother not to oppose it. His august Mother told him, *That it was something to know that he had offended, that he might thereby see that God had not altogether forsaken him; but that he shou'd take care not to provoke him thorowly, and therefore she pray'd him at least to beg of him the Grace of good Desires, and the Power to do better.* Since the King had but lately sent the Duke and Duchess of Navailles from Court, this Princess told him she had made a Resolution to speak no more to him of their Disgrace, seeing how ineffectual all her Intreaties had been; but that merely for his Honour's sake, she was willing to tell him that he ought to consider he had banish'd them, because they had Virtue. To which he answer'd,

fewer'd, *That he cou'd no more overcome himself in that, than in other Matters, and that he wou'd be reveng'd both of the Husband and Wife ; That the Countess of Flex and I were Persons likewise whom he had a great mind to banish, and that he thought twenty times to have done it while she was sick.* The Queen-Mother was astonish'd at what the King said to her about the Countess of *Flex* and me, and did all she cou'd to justify the Innocence of her Lady of Honour, and her good Intentions ; and 'twas no more than what she ought to have done, in consideration of the Esteem she had for her, and the Rank she held with her : But the Danger was then over, it never return'd again ; and I much question whether that Lady knew it. The King own'd farther to the Queen-Mother, that *Madame de Brancas* had told him some things against her, which might have inflam'd their Difference ; but he gave her to understand at the same time, that considering the Sentiments of his Heart, this wou'd have been a difficult matter. After this ample Declaration, the Queen-Mother was as much afflicted for the State of the King's Soul, as she was pleas'd with his Love and Sincerity, which oblig'd her not only to redouble her own Prayers, but to engage many others to pray for him likewise.

From what has been said, it appears, that there were great Contrarieties in the King's Temper ; that his Virtues were mixt with the contrary Qualities, and that bearing the common Character of human Frailty, he was not always wise, nor always just. I cannot however

ver forbear saying, that in my Opinion he had a great share of Reason, in confessing his want of it, a great deal of Strength in owning his Frailties, and abundance of Christian Humility in accusing himself of Injustice 'Tis a wrong Notion to think, that Men must be free from all Faults, to make them merit high Esteem, and to be rank'd among Heroes; there are none such to be found, and God alone is perfect: The *Cesar's*, the *Augustus's*, the *Constantine's*, and the *Theodosius's*, all committed Crimes, and their Passions triumph'd over their Reason and Justice. The Difference between them, and such Persons whose Memory is stain'd, is, that their Virtues have outstrip'd their Vices, that they knew the latter, and were at least asham'd of them; that, in their Judgment, they distinguish'd between Good and Evil, and esteem'd the one, and condemn'd the other. Among these great Men, such as were Christians did more; they repented of the Evil they saw in themselves, and 'tis to be wish'd that the King wou'd follow their Example in this, as he does in the great things that made them admir'd.

The Queen-Mother seeing how ill-dispos'd the King was to me, had the Goodness to be uneasy at it; and because she thought, that, while my Friends were banish'd, it wou'd not be proper for me to be at Court, she therefore did me the Favour to bid me not to go thither; so that I stay'd at *Paris* waiting her Orders, and till Matters shou'd be mollify'd: and when afterwards I had the Honour to see her at *Vincennes*, where the Court came to stay

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stay for a while, she told me all the Particulars I have now set down, which few People knew; and *Molina* told me of the Tears that she saw her shed in her Oratory.

The Discourse between the King and Queen-Mother, and their Reconciliation, prov'd not very advantageous to the Countess of *Bran-
cas*. Her Husband was a Man that had naturally a great deal of Wit: After he had liv'd a loose and disorderly Life, he seem'd to be reform'd and devout; I believe at least he was inclin'd to be so, but I fear he was not so, and that his good Intentions and his Conduct were not all of a piece. He was of a hasty Temper, his Passions had too much Power over him, and he seldom took care to resist them. I know that he repented of it, and that the severe Chastisements he inflicted on himself were as excessive as his Irregularities, which in the sight of God, 'tis to be hop'd, were less than his Penance; for God sees our Mistakes, and pardons them: but in the sight of Men he was a little too eager after Favour, and oftentimes unjust in his Judgments, because he pass'd them without examining the Truth of the things he was willing to believe. What the King had told the Queen his Mother about the Countess of *Bran-
cas*, did not well please her, and she kept it in her Remembrance. It happen'd therefore that one Morning as she was going to Mass, and leaning upon *Bran-
cas* her Gentleman-Usher, she left him to go and charge his Wife, whom she saw on her Knees in a Corner of the Chappel, *That she must never speak any more to the
King*

King about her, and never bring up her Name in her Discourses. Brancas immediately thought that the Queen-Mother had been speaking to his Wife to do her a Favour, and was going to thank her; but she said to him very coldly, *Do not thank me, Brancas, I have been forbidding your Wife to name my Name any more to the King.* At this Declaration he was surpriz'd, and both the Husband and Wife seem'd much concern'd: they exclaim'd against the evil Offices which they said had been done them, and complain'd of the Countess of *Flex*, saying, that she had found fault to the Queen-Mother, with the Complaisance that the Countess of *Brancas* had for the King. I cannot in truth think that they cou'd with Justice complain of any body, and must be of Opinion, that their manner of proceeding had run them out of Favour; for while they endeavour'd to attain the King's good Opinion by ways that he did not like, and to preserve the Esteem both of himself and the Queen-Mother, they push'd themselves into a Necessity of saying and doing things so opposite to one another, that this alone led them into fatal Perplexities, whose Source and Effects cou'd not easily be stop'd. While they rav'd against their imaginary Enemies, they magnify'd what they had suffer'd for the King, and endeavour'd to make him their Defender; I shou'd have commended their Cunning, had they taken the same care not to have pull'd down others, as they did to re-establish themselves. *Fouquet's* Disgrace had put them but into bad Circumstances,
and

and the need they had of Favour, was an Excuse for their Conduct, but cou'd not justify their false Accusations made upon too slight Pretences; nor what the Lady *Branca*s told the King, forgetting the Respect she ow'd to the Queen-Mother: It was their Pleasure in short to deal thus, and perhaps they were so intoxicated with their Visions, that they were persuaded they had said nothing but the Truth. The Queen-Mother was the more disgusted with them on account of their Complaints, which really were not just. That Princess, influenc'd purely by her Respect for the Count *de Branca*s, was minded to give him some Advice about his Family, which he took amiss, and from thence proceeded all the rest; but the Queen-Mother being accusom'd to forgive, had brought herself into a commendable Habit of Forgiveness, upon Occasions greater and more urgent than what I am now speaking of; and imputing to the Temper of the Count and Countess of *Branca*s what had given her Offence, she pass'd it over in favour of their Intentions, which she thought not ill of, and treated them as well as ever: not but I am apt to believe, that what she sacrific'd to God upon this Occasion, was very much against the Grain, because whatever concern'd the King touch'd her to the quick, not so much for his being the King, as by reason of the tenderness she had for him.

While the Court continu'd at *Fontainbleau*, Madame was brought to bed of a Son; for which the Queen-Mother express'd much Joy, and the King seem'd as much rejoic'd as if
Heaven

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Heaven had sent that Present to himself. He was call'd the Duke of *Valois*, for reviving in him that illustrious Branch which had given so many great Kings to *France*.

After all these Matters were over, the Court return'd to *Vincennes*, where I had the Honour to see the Queen again. After a long Conversation with her, I found it was necessary to speak to the King; which I did, and intreated him to believe, that, *as I was faithful to my Friends, I was much more so to my Master*; and that, *considering my Sentiments, it was impossible for me to fail in this my principal Duty*. He look'd kindly at me, and did me the Honour to return me a very obliging Answer, that is to say, according to his usual manner, in a very few words, but such as restor'd me to Life again, and to the Capacity of bearing a little longer the frequent Troubles of this wicked World, which Reason many times bids us hate, but Nature always prompts us to love.

About the end of *September*, Monsieur and Madame went to *Villers-Coterets*; the Queen-Mother went thither likewise in Complaisance, and was there two Days: At her Return, the King himself took a Journey thither, and left the Queen at *Vincennes*, who was too far gone with Child to accompany him. That Princess being depriv'd of the Satisfaction of going herself, wish'd at least that he wou'd have gone in Company less agreeable to him than was *Mademoiselle de la Valiere*, whom he chose to take with him. She cry'd bitterly, and the King, who found her in her Oratory
all

all in Tears the Night before he departed, assuag'd her Grief by seeming to take part in it; and in order to cure the present Pain, which her Jealousy made her suffer, he endeavour'd to persuade her, that for the time to come he wou'd quit the Character of a Gallant, and at the Age of Thirty take up that of a good Husband. The Queen-Mother took care to dispel the rest of her Sadness, and so things went on as usual, *i. e.* her Sorrows ended at the King's Return, whose Presence cur'd all her Afflictions.

On the 4th of *October*, the Queen-Mother being come from *Vincennes* to *Paris* to visit the little *Carmelites*, was taken ill there with a Sickness at her Heart, and fainting Fits, and went from thence to lie at *Val de Grace*, where she had but a bad Night. The same Day the King being inform'd that the Queen his Mother was not well, and that she was not able to return to lie at *Vincennes*, set out on a full Gallop at Eight a-Clock to see her; shewing by his Haste and Uneasiness that his Love for her was deeply rooted in his Heart: The Queen Mother was affected with it, and by the Commendations she gave him, testify'd her Acknowledgments. At his Return to *Vincennes*, one Day when she kept her Chamber, he brought *Mademoiselle de la Valiere* to her, having no Apprehensions that his Queen wou'd see her, because she was ill too; but when she understood that that young Lady was with the Queen-Mother, and that she play'd with the King, Monsieur, and Madame in her Chamber, she was extremely con-

concern'd, and (as I chanc'd to be with her) order'd me to go and speak of it to the Queen-Mother. I found that great Princess shut up in her Oratory, and apparently out of Humour for what the King had done. As soon as she saw me she blush'd, and perceiving by her Eyes that she guess'd at my Errand, I said nothing, but shut the Door of the Place where she was; and by my respectful Silence, gave her to understand what I was afraid to mention. The Part that she bore in this trifling Adventure, which proceeded from a forc'd Complaisance, occasion'd some Reflections that made her very uneasy; insomuch, that next Day she spoke of it herself to the Queen her Daughter; and they, I know, were very well satisfy'd with each other. As for my own part, I came to *Paris* that Night, without returning to the Queen's Apartment; for not being then able to give her any Comfort by my Service, I trusted in the Wisdom of the Queen-Mother, whom I knew too well to doubt that she wou'd omit any Means in her power for that End.

I cannot, in this place, but take notice of one Particular, that may teach us how common a thing it is for People at Court to have their Hearts corrupted, and their Minds infected with the wicked Maxims of the World. The very Moment that the Queen order'd me to go and speak to the Queen her Mother, I met the Duchess of *Montausier*, who was over-joy'd at what the Queen was extremely concern'd for. She said to me with a rapturous Exclamation, *Do you see, Madam? the*
Queen-

Queen-Mother has done wonderfully well in seeing Mademoiselle de la Valiere; this is like an able Woman, and a good Politician; but she is so weak, added she, that we can hardly hope she'll maintain this Action as she shou'd. The truth is, I was surpriz'd to observe in this Comedy of the World, how much different Sentiments make us act different Parts; and being unwilling to answer her, I left her, and ran away like one that had some urgent Business, and cou'd not stay to hear her. Much about the same time, the Duke of Montausier, who had the Reputation of a Man of Honour, gave me the like Uneasiness, but upon another Subject: for speaking how much the Queen-Mother was vex'd with the Countess of Brancas, he said to me these very words, *Verily the Queen-Mother is a pleasant Woman, to be angry with the Countess of Brancas for being so complaisant to the King, as to keep Mademoiselle de la Valiere Company; if she were a wise and cunning Woman, she wou'd be very well pleas'd to have the King in love with Mademoiselle de Brancas: for she being a Daughter of one that belongs to her, and her first Domestick; he, his Wife, and his Daughter, wou'd do her good Offices with the King.* We owe all we have to God, and nothing shou'd have the Preference to him in our Heart and Will: He commands us to obey the King; but we only owe him that Obedience in such things as are not contrary to the Divine Laws; and upon this Principle, I leave the *Casuits* to decide of what Nature and Quality were the Sentiments
of

of the Duke and Duchess of *Montausier*. They were minded that their Daughter shou'd influence others by her Example to follow *Mademoiselle de la Valiere*; and as they had ask'd leave of the Queen, and she refus'd them, they bore her so much hatred, that it made them talk with Hypocrisy, and with a design to hide the baseness of their Meaning, that the Queen-Mother, out of an Obstinacy unworthy of a Christian Mother, had contributed to the Sin of the King her Son, instead of endeavouring to deliver him from it, as she often did by her good Advice. On the contrary, they had been well pleas'd, if she had bore such a part in the Offence as wou'd have render'd her unworthy of the Divine Mercy, and of the Esteem of the King her Son; for he was too discerning for us to imagine that he had not a Contempt for what wou'd have been so despicable in its own Nature. My Answer to the Duke of *Montausier* was, that I had observ'd in our History, that *Katherine de Medicis* got Dishonour by the like Complaisance to the Kings her Children; and that I was so much concern'd for the Honour of *Anne of Austria*, that I shou'd be very sorry if she were capable to do the same. I am also perswaded, as much as I can be of any undoubted Truth, that the Count *de Brancas*, for all his Passion, was a Man of too much Honour and Conscience to desire to be engag'd in any such Adventure, any more than his Daughter *Mademoiselle de Brancas*, who was as virtuous as she was beautiful, and belov'd by the Queen-Mother for her singular Modesty:

I am

I am oblig'd to tell the World, that what Counsels that Princess gave her Father did not at all concern her; but were only intended to correct some Inadvertencies in the Duchess her Mother.

On the 10th of *October*, all the Court left *Vincennes* to go to *Versailles*, and spend some Days in the Diversions that the King had prepar'd for them. The Queen, who was then far advanc'd in her Pregnancy, had a Pain in her Back which alarm'd her, and she was unwilling to go this Journey lest she shou'd come to any harm; for she lov'd to take care of herself when she was with Child: but the King, to engage her in it, and to banish her Fears and Uneasiness, took care himself to have a Chair made for her exactly like a Litter, in which she herself own'd that she went very commodiously. As it was doubtless for the King's Advantage to have Children, and as Journeys are always dangerous to Women in her Condition, it seem'd to be a Point of Prudence in him to prefer the Queen's Safety before his Pleasures: but he was then at that Age, when Fancy, as it were, always prevails above every thing else. The Day that the Queen left *Vincennes*, she came gently in her Machine to dine at the little *Carmelites*, her Favourites; and to them she imparted her Uneasiness.

The Queen-Mother went directly to *Versailles*, and in her Return from this short Journey, pass'd thro *Challiot*, where I was in the Convent of *St. Mary*, and where she did us the Honour to tell Mother *de la Fayette*,

Superior of the Convent, my Sister and me, what Trouble she had had there with the Queen's melancholy and jealous Temper, who had not a sufficient Experience of the things of the World; nor a Strength of Mind able to support herself, as she cou'd wish she had. By the Mind we perceiv'd she was in, we saw plainly, that all the Accidents at Court, whether good or evil, equally contributed to her Perfection, which had brought her now to a State of desiring nothing but God: but she had a great deal to suffer before she cou'd be possess'd of that Happiness, not only in her own Person, but in the Queen's likewise, who on the 4th of *November* fell dangerously ill. Her Illness began with a Tertian Ague, which was attended with dangerous Accidents: She had great Pains in her Legs, which being violent, were follow'd with her Delivery (tho but eight Months gone) of a Princess that liv'd but a few Days.

Next Day she had such Convulsions, that every body fear'd she wou'd die. The King, on this Occasion, according to the strange Contrarieties that were in him, as well as in many other Men, shew'd a tender Affection for the Queen. He wept, and besides the Tokens he gave of his Love for her, during his Grief, he shew'd some Testimony of his Faith; for he sent a great deal of Money to be distributed to the Poor, and to the Prisons for releasing the Prisoners; and offer'd up Vows to Heaven for the Life of a Princess whom he esteem'd for her Virtue, and cou'd not hate, considering her Beauty, and the timorous, respectful,
and

and submissive tender Love she had for him. At the time that she was in Labour, he said to the Marshal *de Villeroy*, that tho the Loss of the Child wou'd be a great Misfortune to him, yet he shou'd be easy, if God wou'd be so gracious to him as to save the Queen's Life, if the Child shou'd live so long as to be baptiz'd.

The Queen-Mother was sensibly touch'd with the Danger she saw the Queen in; and for all her natural Tenderness, and the Dread which young Persons commonly have of Death, made her resolve to receive the holy *Viaticum*. She told her, that she was in danger, and said afterwards to those that wonder'd how she was able to tell her that sad News, *That she lov'd the Queen; but had a greater Desire to see her live in Heaven than on Earth.* The King, attended with the whole Court, went to meet the Holy Sacrament, but the Queen-Mother stay'd in the Queen's Chamber; who, after she had taken the Sacrament, said, she was greatly comforted in that she had receiv'd our Lord, and that she did not regard her Life, but for the sake of the King, *y d' esta Muger **, pointing at the Queen-Mother. But at last God restor'd her to *France*, to the King and the Queen-Mother; for after she had taken a Vomit on the 18th of *November*, she recover'd.

The Queen-Mother had for some time past, and particularly during the Queen's late Sickness, found a considerable Pain in her Breast. As she had been too negligent of this Ailment, she was amaz'd to see

* And that Woman.

how much worse it was grown in a short time; and by the yellowness of her Looks it was visible, that her Concern for the Danger she saw the Queen in had done her great harm. She had consulted the Physicians at the beginning of this strange Illness, and they apply'd Hemlock, which was of no manner of Service. She had once a Design (as she did me the Honour to tell me) to have put herself into the Hands of *Vallot*, first Physician to the King; who being well vers'd in the Knowledge of Simples and Chymistry, ought to have known some Specifick Remedy for this Distemper: but he shew'd so much Weakness in the Support of his Opinion, against those that oppos'd him, that she was disgusted with him. *Seguin*, who was her first Physician, was a learned Man, according to the manner of the Faculty at *Paris*, who are always for letting blood, and using no other Remedy. He had not the least Experience, for he came young into the Queen's Service: and what added to the Misfortune, he was very passionate, valu'd no body's Advice; and tho he did not know any one particular Remedy for the Queen-Mother's Illness, did nothing but oppose every Prescription for her: insomuch that at the first appearing of it, the Queen was undetermin'd what to do; and during this Suspension, her Sore became so very ill, that there was a Necessity of using the last Remedy, and that speedily. All this while the Princess found no Relief from any one; but was forc'd to give herself up to the Passions of Men, that tormented her more than
her

her Illness. Her Servants likewise had all their particular Opinions what Course she ought to take: Some were for *Vallot*, others were against him; and thus, by being too great, and too well-belov'd, she saw that she cou'd receive neither Comfort nor Remedy from those that shou'd have given it her. At that time I often saw her on her Knees before God, and in some Pain, expressing her Wants; but having always had a great Confidence in the Divine Providence, she then said what she had often done upon other Occasions, *God will assist me; and if his Pleasure is that I shou'd be afflicted with this terrible Distemper that seems to threaten me, what I suffer will doubtless be for my Salvation; and, I hope, said she, that God will give me sufficient Strength to bear it with Patience.* To these words, she added, that when she us'd to see the Cancers of some Nuns in *Val de Grace*, which turn'd to a Mortification and kill'd them, she always had a great Dread of a Distemper, so frightful to the very Imagination; but that if God thought fit for her to be afflicted with it, she must have Patience; he was the Lord of all, and that 'twas just to bless him at all times. She then continu'd to apply this Hemlock to her Breast, which seem'd to grow much worse. I told *Vallot* of it, who answer'd me very coldly, that if he had been left to himself (considering how badly the Remedy agreed with her) she shou'd not have kept it on above a Fortnight. I was surpriz'd to see what trifling Considerations hinder'd that Man from speaking the Truth, and maintaining it while he

thereby endanger'd the Life of so great a Princess, and one so useful to the World. I ran immediately to tell this to the Queen-Mother, who without murmuring at the Barbarity of it, only said to me with a Blush, *We must have Patience.*

On the 15th of *December*, the Queen-Mother gave publick Demonstrations of that Constancy, which increasing in proportion with her Distemper, tended to make her an admirable Pattern of Patience and Piety. It was in *Christmas*, at *Val de Grace*, when all on a sudden her Distemper was declar'd to be very great and incurable: She had a very bad Night, and when the Physicians next Morning dress'd her, they found her Breast in such a Condition that they were astonish'd. She knew their Surprise by their Looks, and when all the Women that saw it with Sorrow fell a crying, she was the only Person that seem'd not to be concern'd, and that utter'd no Complaint: but after she had shewn by the Alteration of her Countenance, that she was not insensible, she rebuk'd and comforted them at once, by letting them see her entire submission to the Will of God. She said to the King, who came to see her after Dinner, and to Monsieur, who had been with her all the Morning, *That she desir'd them not to be troubled at this Accident; that she was very well satisfy'd to die; that it had been coming upon her some Years at least; and that she thought herself happy, in that God was pleas'd by this means to make her do Penance for her Sins.* Immediately there was a Consultation of the
most

most famous Physicians and Surgeons at *Paris*, who were all of an Opinion that it was a Cancer, and incurable. The King gave an Order for her to make use of his first Physician, *Vallot*: he was the Person she had an Inclination to at first; for she lik'd him well, tho what he apply'd to her Breast some Days after, was thought to be the thing that made it so very much worse. At last, seeing his Medicine did her no good, she suffer'd herself to be advis'd by other Persons, who told her of one *Gendron*, a poor Priest in a Country Village, who look'd after poor People, and had acquir'd a Reputation by that charitable Work. She had seen him at *Val de Grace*; and her Physician, *Seguin*, seeing that *Vallot* had tamper'd with her to no purpose, advis'd her to put herself into that Man's Hands. The Queen-Mother follow'd his Advice, not without some hopes of a Cure, or a longer Life at least; for this Man promis'd her that he wou'd make her Breast as hard as a Stone, and that afterwards she wou'd live as long as if she had no Cancer. But *Gendron* did not speak *bona fide*; for besides that his Remedy was new, and that he had not try'd it enough to answer thus for it, we soon after heard of a young Woman whom he had apply'd it to, who was so very bad with it, that she was forc'd to have her Breast open'd. This Remedy was hot, and consequently violent; the Queen-Mother was put to great Torture with it: but she then began to take a firm Resolution to accustom herself to Suffering. In the Day-time she dress'd

as usual, and diverted herself the best she cou'd; but she had bad Nights: those that lay in the Chamber, said, she never slept; but her Illness was more known by the Marks of her Distemper, than by her Complaints. In this way she went on some time, without saying any thing of what she felt, or even shewing any uneasiness about it. The Hope that she had till then of finding some Relief in the Skill and Knowledge of Men, wou'd have made her Constancy less admirable, had we not seen the same Virtue subsist under such cruel Torments, under a certainty of her Distemper's increasing, or rather under a certainty of Death; and for this reason, those that observ'd the Operations of her Soul, thro the whole course of this dreadful Distemper, esteem'd them infinitely.

The Queen-Mother did me the honour to tell me one Day, when I was alone with her in her Oratory, that she thought she shou'd die of that Distemper; but that perhaps it wou'd not be so soon. In this manner she pass'd the Winter all the while in very great Misery, as one might see by her Eyes and Countenance; but as it was tolerable, her Mind was made somewhat easy with *Gendron's* Promises, who flatter'd her with some prolongation of Life: but her Cancer, by degrees, grew worse and worse, and began at last to open, which made those that were concern'd for her Life very uneasy.

At the same time, there were a great many other People that boasted of the rare Secrets they had, and assur'd the Queen-Mother that they

they wou'd cure her, in case she wou'd put herself into their hands.

Among these, there was one *Alliot of Lorraine*, who apply'd to me, and shew'd us a young Woman he had in a manner cur'd that had been worse than the Queen-Mother; and the good Constitution of Body which the Queen enjoy'd, made us hope that by Nature's seconding proper Remedies, she might get the better of her Distemper. But for all their fine Promises, instead of procuring by their Art Health and Life, we saw her hastning towards her End, by the way of a Penance which was hard and terrible. The Remedies of Men, as God wou'd have it, were inavailable to the Cure of her Body; but by the Torments they made her suffer, they help'd to cure the Maladies of her Soul. That Soul, which God design'd for true Glory, was to be purg'd from the Notions of human Pride, which is in a manner inseparable from the Greatness and Pomp that attend on Royalty: It was necessary that the Indolence and Negligence which perhaps she discover'd to discharge those great Duties wherein her Regency had engag'd her, shou'd find a Remedy in those Chastisements that God prepar'd for her; and that by this Dispensation of Grace, so opposite to Nature, she might be made worthy of his Mercies, that are of much more value than Life. The last apparent Imperfection that wise People observ'd in this eminent Princess, was, that while, by a fatal Distemper's coming upon her, she carry'd Death in her Bosom, as it were, she was a little too much addicted to

the Love of her own Person. Custom had a great share in this, and that firmness of Mind which secur'd her against the fear of Death, eas'd her Trouble, and made her act in the same manner as if she had been in perfect Health ; but forgetting no part of the Care that was due to her Salvation. She took some pains indeed, in Neatness and Dress, as being persuaded that her Character of Queen, which expos'd her to the publick View, oblig'd her to do it : but she wore nothing that was offensive to Decency ; so that instead of blaming her, we ought to place this Intrepidity that made her always act uniformly, and like herself, among the Rank of moral Virtues. But as I desire not that the particular Respect I have for her Memory, shou'd make me judge too advantageously of her Sentiments ; and as what I am now writing is but a bare Recital of Matter of Fact, without which all History is but a ridiculous Fable, I own, that to speak according to *St. Paul's* Precepts, it were to have been wish'd, for the Edification of the Publick, that this great Queen had relinquisht these Trifles ; and in her outward Behaviour, made it more apparent that *God alone reigned in her*. On the other hand, according to the same Apostle, *all things work for good to those that love God* ; and we clearly saw, that the Remembrance of that Weakness which was then entirely innocent, begot in her an Ability and Desire to suffer ; the true Knowledg she had of her Nothingness occasion'd her Elevation ; and her Repentance for the Value she had put upon

upon her Beauty in her youthful Days, was the cause of her holy Exit.

While the Queen-Mother was in this State of Affliction, and the King taken up with Business and Pleasures, the Infidelity of his Friends made him perceive the Innocence of those that he had abandon'd; and if he was not in a Condition to repent, his Reason however cou'd not but convince him, that nothing is more uncertain than human Judgment. To illustrate what I wou'd say, we must look back to the Year 1662, when Madame having made it at last apparent, that she did not hate the Count *de Guiche*, prepar'd to suffer what the Queen-Mother, and the Queen of *England*, her Mother, pleas'd to inflict upon her. *Montalais*, one of her Maids of Honour, was sent away for having been the Depositary of her Secrets; and, for the ease of Monsieur, the King banish'd the guilty Person once more, and sent him into *Poland*. Monsieur, by an incompatible Turn of Thought, lov'd all the Family of *Grammont*; and this same Count of *Guiche* had been his Favourite till the time he was banish'd in 1661: and for all this Adventure, Monsieur consented that the Princess of *Monaco*, (now return'd from that Banishment to which the Queen-Mother, as I have elsewhere related, sent her) tho the Sister of that Person, whom he no longer cou'd love, shou'd be Madame's declar'd Confidant. He had made (as I have already wrote) Mad. de *St. Chaumont*, Sister to the Mareschal de *Grammont*, Governess to his Children, and the Chevalier de *Grammont* their Brother, was well enter-

entertain'd by him. My Lord *Montagu*, in order to please Madame and the whole Family of *Grammont*, that rul'd in that Court, some time after the Clamour that was made against Madame, press'd the Queen-Mother to consent to the Return of the unfortunate Count *de Guiche*; who, being surrounded with the false Glory of the World, thought himself happy, no doubt, in suffering for so gallant a Cause.

The Queen-Mother too easily consented to his Return; but on condition that the Offender shou'd never appear in any place where Madame was. The Count *de Guiche* therefore return'd to *France*, and waited on the King at the Siege of *Marsal*, who receiv'd him favourably, and Monsieur treated him, as he ought, *i. e.* with some coldness. The Count *de Guiche* seem'd inclinable at his Return to observe the Orders that were sent him with great exactness. Monsieur thought himself obey'd; and his easiness to believe it proceeded, no doubt, from the good Opinion he had of Madame, who as soon as *Montalais* was remov'd by a Confession of all that had pass'd, which was not criminal, and which appear'd sincere to Monsieur, extinguish'd in his Mind some part of his Suspicion. He comforted himself in all his Grief with the Queen his Mother, as his best Friend, and acted most commonly by her Counsel: tho this Princess blam'd Madame's open Conduct, yet she believ'd her really innocent; and being willing to correct her for her Faults, she labour'd what she cou'd for their common good; but all was in vain.

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As soon as the Count *de Guiche* return'd, Madame wanted not Confidants to help her to Intelligence from him; but this is a long Story, which I know only in part, and cannot give a full Detail of. What appear'd to the Publick was, that *Vardes*, who had an extravagant Ambition, and was naturally artful and vain, out of an ardent Desire to be well with the King, had advis'd the Countess of *Soissons*, who was not suppos'd to hate him, to take all the bad Courses she did to preserve the King's Favour, as I have already related in the Affair of *Mademoiselle de la Motte Houdancourt*. *Vardes* had formerly been Count *de Guiche's* Friend, and thro the Countess of *Soisson's* means, was admitted into a Confidence with Madame. The Story goes, that in the Exile's Absence, and even after his Return, under the colour of Friendship, he was endeavouring to ruin him with that young Princess; and that to bind her fast to himself, thro the fear of what Injury he might do her, he advis'd her to get his and the Count *de Guiche's* Letters out of *Montalais's* hands; who, for all her Disgrace, had the Cunning to keep them, and take them along with her. This I am sure of, that Madame, not perceiving the knavery of his Advice, consented to it, and gave him a Letter to demand them of the Person that had them; but that, when he had got them into his hands, he had the Treachery to detain them in spite of all that Madame cou'd do to oblige him to restore them to her; and that the Princess being provok'd with his baseness, was resolv'd to be even,

even, not only with him, but the Countess of *Soissons* likewise, whom she suspected to have had a hand with him in the Affront. There was a Story that *Vardes*, being perfidious both to his former Mistress and his Friend, was for joining Love and Ambition together; and that his Sentiments and Artifices to gain a Conquest over Madame's Heart were with one and the same View: but I know nothing of it, I had no Acquaintance with him, nor can I give a just Description of his Dissimulation; but this is certain, that a Medley of so many Passions cou'd not but produce a great deal of Mischief, which was the case here. The Ladies fell together by the ears; the Count *de Guiche* and *Vardes* became Rivals and Enemies; and this Division rais'd Jealousy and Hatred between these four People. The Countess of *Soissons*, who thought she had reason to complain of Madame, threaten'd to tell the King all that she said had been done by her, and the Count *de Guiche*, against him; but Madame, who fear'd the effect of her Menaces, was in a manner forc'd to prevent her, and confess'd to the King all that had pass'd. She inform'd him, that the Letter wrote to the Queen under the Queen of *Spain's* Name, and given to *Molina* in 1662, was *Vardes's* Invention, and wrote by the Count *de Guiche* before his Banishment; and the Conversation that the Countess of *Soissons* had with the Queen in the Convent of the *Carmelites*, in the *Street du Bouloy*, was not omitted. The Countess of *Soissons*, for her part, in order to justify herself to the King, told him likewise,

wife, that besides the Letter that Madame had own'd, the Count *de Guiche* had wrote several others to Madame, wherein he spoke of him in a manner that cou'd not but displease him, treated him like a Bully, and endeavour'd all he cou'd to oblige that Prince to advise her Brother, the King of *England*, not to sell *Dunkirk* to our King.

All these things were fully clear'd up by that great Prince, who wou'd even have Declarations of them in writing under the Count *de Guiche*'s own hand, who deny'd part; but own'd the Letter which *Vardes* wrote himself, and he translated into *Spanish*, on purpose to incense the Queens against *la Valiere*.

When all these Intrigues were made publick, it happen'd that one Day as the Queen-Mother was worse than ordinary, the King had a long Conversation with her; and that afterwards he shut himself up with Madame several times: he had long Conferences likewise with the Countess of *Soissons*; but she wou'd never own that she had any hand in the Letter that was written to the Queen in 1662; tho, in all appearance, it must be she that pick'd up in the Queen's Chamber the Cover of the Letter which was writ in the Queen of *Spain*'s hand. What she said in her Excuse and Justification, I cannot tell; but the current Report was, that she seem'd to be displeas'd with the Treaty that the King made in the Year 1662 with the Duke of *Lorrain*; wherein that Prince stripp'd off all, yields to him after his Death the Property of the

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Duchies

Duchies of *Lorraine* and *Bar*, and gave him *Marsal* in his Life-time, on condition that all the Princes of his Family be call'd to the Succession of the Crown of *France* after the House of *Bourbon*. 'Tis to be believ'd therefore, that the Princess concealing her inward Sentiments, colour'd all her Intrigues with the Grief she had to see, that the Count *de Soissons* her Husband, who came of so great a Family, and had even a Mixture of the Blood-Royal of *France* running in his Veins, shou'd be oblig'd to give place to the Princes of the House of *Lorraine*.

The King ask'd the Queen the Truth of the Conversation that the Countess of *Soissons* had with her, at the little *Carmelites*: but she told him very little of it; for the Countess of *Soissons* having then quarrell'd with Madame, whom the Queen never thought her Friend, she began to hate *Soissons* no longer; and out of a principle of Fidelity, was not willing to ruin her. But the Queen's Goodness did not prevent her Disgrace; *Vardes*, who had been banish'd a little before for some disrespectful words of Madame at the beginning of their Quarrel, before it broke out was sent Prisoner to the Citadel of *Montpellier*; and on the 13th of *March* 1665, the Count and Countess of *Soissons* had a private Order to leave the Court, and retire to one of their Houses.

On the same Day a * certain Person, very well acquainted with the Affair I am now

* *Le Tellier*.

speaking of, meeting me at the Queen-Mother's, whisper'd to me that no body at Court had gain'd so much by that Day's Work as I had; and he told me likewise, that tho the King continu'd in suspense, as to the Suspicion he had of me concerning the Letter wrote against him and given to *Molina*, he was determin'd to have no good Intentions for me. I was not capable of failing in the Respect and Fidelity I ow'd the King; but in my own Sentiments was quite averse to it; for (thanks be to God) I enter as little as I can into my Friend's Passions, nor can I suffer myself to be perswaded by them into any thing that seems contrary to my Reason and Duty. The Duchess of *Navailles* too was as incapable of asking me to write it, as I was to humour her; for we have often spoke together of it, and not knowing the Authors, always concluded it to be a mere Invention: I was the more surpriz'd when I knew whence it came, because the Count *de Guiche* and *Vardes* too were Men of Wit: but they perhaps had reasons for doing it that I know nothing of; and such as they will discover whenever they think proper to justify themselves to the Publick.

But to finish the Fate of the Count *de Guiche*, the Hero of this part of our History; he was banish'd the third time, and went into *Holland* to conclude the Adventures of the Romance. The Love he had for Madame brought him under great Misfortunes; but the Vanity he was liable to, undoubtedly took away all the Sting of them. He had marry'd the Daughter of the Duke of *Sulli*,
and

and Grandaughter by her Mother's side to *Se-guier* the Chancellor of *France*; she was well shap'd, wise and rich: but hitherto in one Sense she had been marry'd, and in another she had not, her Husband being not capable of enjoying much pleasure with her; nor of improving the great Establishments of his Family; but he lov'd a splendid Disgrace, better than an ordinary Life with plenty of all things. 'Tis just, that the irregularity of Mens Passions shou'd carry their own Punishment along with them.

When the Author of all these Intrigues was banish'd, without any hopes of his Return, Madame seem'd as if she had been willing to change her Conduct; she liv'd better with the Queen her Mother-in-Law, and seem'd to think of diverting herself, only for the sake of sharing with the King the innocent Pleasures of the Court, which are reckon'd necessary; and she shew'd a Desire to please every body. As she had a very agreeable Wit, and an Understanding that enabled her to talk rationally upon all Subjects, those that had the honour to be near her were of Opinion then, that there were already certain Moments wherein her own Experience taught her that the Pleasures of Life, which she pursu'd with so much eagerness, are not capable entirely of contenting the Heart of Man: but she was not as yet in a Condition to be perfectly convinc'd of this Truth; she only saw it at a Distance, and thro so many Clouds, that it was impos-
sible

fible for her to be thorowly affected with it.

It being the Spring, when the King had a Desire to go to *St. Germain's*, many People dissuaded the Queen-Mother from going; but she wou'd follow him, and said, *That since she must die, she shou'd as soon chuse to die there as at Paris*: so all the Court departed on the 20th of *April*. The King propos'd to the Queen his Mother, to go by boat; but she wou'd go in a Chair, that she might pass by *St. Mary de Chaliot*, to see, as she said, once more that poor Convent. I dare say, that my Sister, who was a Nun in that House, had a great share in that Visit, because she lov'd her; and since Mother *de la Fayette's* Death, there was none in the place besides her, whom she valu'd: but I shall be sorry for it as long as I live; for it seem'd she was so shook in the Journey, that it did her much harm. She din'd there, and told us, that she found more Pain in her Breast than usual: but she did not seem a whit uneasy; but on the contrary, was over-joy'd to see herself again in a place which she had always honour'd with her Royal Protection. From *Challiot*, she went in the same manner to lie at Monsieur's House at *St. Clou*, where she promis'd herself Diversion, and the Benefit of the Air; but she had a very bad Night on't, her Pains being excessive and violent, and from that fatal Night she fell into such Misery and Torture as nothing cou'd cure but Death. I went from *Challiot* to *Paris*, and next Day Monsieur did Madame *de Brienne* and me the favour to send his Barge to.

to *Paris* to carry us to his House to see the Queen-Mother; we went very gladly in hopes of finding her better, in a place with which she was so much delighted, but were surpriz'd and much concern'd to find her so ill. We stay'd that Day, and *Madame de Brienne* and I were always with her: she doz'd a little, and we perceiv'd by her Looks how much she suffer'd: Next Day, she went in that same Barge to meet the King at *St. Germain's*.

On *Thursday* Morning, the 27th of *May*, the Queen-Mother was taken with a great shivering while she was at Mass; she kept it to herself for fear of spoiling a Party of Pleasure which the Queen and Madame were going upon, and spoke nothing of it till those Princesses were gone. She then own'd to those who took notice she did not look well, that she was indeed apprehensive of an Ague, and found herself very cold. She went to bed, and the cold Fit continu'd six Hours, being follow'd with a violent Burning, and after that with *St. Anthony's Fire*, which cover'd her Arm and Shoulder on that side where the Cancer was. Upon this News I went to *St. Germain's* (for I did not actually live then there) and found the Queen-Mother in a high Fever, and *Vallot* had told the King that Morning that she ought to be confess'd. When I went into her Chamber, those about her seem'd to be very disconsolate. Monsieur, as soon as he saw me, did me the honour to tell me with Tears in his Eyes what the first Physician had said to the King; and there was some Talk about her Will, and her Death. I went
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near the virtuous Queen's Bed; and as soon as she saw me, she did me the honour to speak to me, and ask'd me at what hour I came from *Paris*, how and when I heard of her Illness, and seem'd to me to be in the same Disposition as usual, calm and intrepid, and without any Agitation discovering an uneasiness in her Mind. That very Moment the Abbot of *Montagne* came to talk with her about making her Confession, and her Will, which I saw her receive with that Calmness I have been speaking of; and heard her say to him, *You do me a great pleasure, these are the truest and most solid Marks of your Friendship.* After she had said this, she spoke to *Tubeuf*, one of her chief Officers, about her Affairs; but in a manner so compos'd, and with such a profound Peace of Mind, that it is impossible to express all the Beauty of it. She spoke likewise with others of her Officers, and then concluded with *Tubeuf* only what she wou'd have done. She propos'd to him to write down Minutes of her Will, and call'd him back several times to tell him things as they occur'd to her Mind. There was some Difficulty about her Jewels, which she had declar'd a long while ago she wou'd give to Monsieur for Mademoiselle; having often said, that she desir'd to give them to her Grandaughter, who was poor, for the King's Children wou'd have enough without hers; but the King seem'd not to be pleas'd with it. He was for having her large Pearls to augment the Jewels of the Crown, which had indeed not many fine ones in it; and thought
it

it proper that they shou'd continue in the Royal Family. The Queen, more out of Jealously against Monsieur and Madame, than any Concern she had for Diamonds and Pearls, desir'd likewise to have her share of them, and commanded me to speak of 'em to the Queen-Mother: but I thought it an improper thing, and took the liberty to advise her to leave it to the King alone, who had a just Right to demand them; and I endeavour'd to quash that mean Thought which wou'd undoubtedly have given the Queen-Mother much Concern. I saw that she took it not well; for all great People love to be obey'd: she thought I did it to serve Monsieur, who knew nothing of it, nor ever made me any Recompence. 'Tis a common case, that by serving great People, one always loses, and gains nothing, except the uneasiness of displeasing them. All these matters however were adjusted, without any apparent Alteration in the Royal Family. It was concluded, that *le Tellier* shou'd make her Will; and the King out of his Justice paying for the Pearls, made Monsieur easy. The Truth is, the King and he were more affected with the Condition they saw their Mother in, than with the Desire of possessing the Wealth she left them; they had a real Intention to love one another, and to preserve the Union that had always hitherto been between them; and Interest was not capable of dissolving it: Nay, I'm apt to believe, that the greatest and such as have hitherto occasion'd so many Troubles and Wars among the Brothers of the Royal Family, will never be able to do it.

The

The Queen-Mother, after she had made a rough Draught of her Will, was very much repos'd ; and when the Queen came to her, this illustrious Mother desir'd her in my hearing in *Spanish*, to order her Confessor to come to her at Night ; for she herself had no Confessor (having turn'd away her own for very good Reasons) and made use at the same time of the Queen's, who was a *Spaniard*, a good Friar, and an honest Man ; but a little simple, and perhaps too much to confess a Queen that had been Regent, at the Hour of her Death. But I believe that she had already made a Preparation for this last Journey by many former Confessions ; and I am apt to imagine, that her long and frequent Retirements at *Val de Grace* were spent in that holy Exercise : but I know nothing of it in particular, and only wish it were so, and that she has receiv'd the Benefit of it in Heaven.

After the Queen had thus order'd her Affairs, she call'd the King, and made the Company leave the Chamber ; but the Door continu'd open. He was with her above half an hour, and we saw him go to the other side of her Bed and weep bitterly in a Chair ; inso-much, that his virtuous Mother desir'd him to retire, for it melted her into Tears to see him express so much Sorrow ; and the King indeed was forc'd to do it, because his Sobs were ready to strangle him. That very Instant, while the King was crying in the manner I have related, my Lord *Montague* and I came up to the Queen, and found her without any outward Disorder, without Tears, without seem-

seeming dejected with the State she was in, or that wherein she had put the King her Son; but gravely pondering upon his Sentiments, with more tenderness for him than any consideration of her own Condition. She saw us, but did not seem to see us, and continuing still silent, we thought her engag'd in weighty Contemplations, and therefore retir'd, not daring to speak to her out of respect; and when the Queen, whom doubtless the Queen-Mother had not forgot in her Conversation with the King, came to her, she said nothing affecting to her, only desir'd her to go and dress herself. When these Royal Persons had a little dry'd up their Tears, the King, as he came from Dinner, call'd again to see the Queen-Mother, whom the Physicians found a little better. The King, after he had been some time with her, got up and talk'd about her to the Lord *Montague*, and cou'd not forbear crying. When she miss'd him, she ask'd where he was; and being told he was just by her Bed, *Son*, says she, with her Voice rais'd, *Go a hunting a little, or at least go and take the Air; for I fear you'll make your Head-ache: and you, Daughter, speaking to the Queen that was just by her, go you too and divert your self a little.* Some hours after, when the Queen and Madame only were at her Bed-side, she did me the honour to say to me, *Madame de Motteville, go thither, and chat a little with the Queen and my Daughter to divert them.* I was forc'd to do it, in order to remove the only uneasiness she seem'd to have for

for fear these two Princesses shou'd be quite tired out.

That Night she confess'd, her Fever return'd; but the Physicians thought it not so violent; which Amendment gave the Royal Family, and all that had the honour to be about her, great Joy. The next Day, finding herself better, she told *Tubeuf*, the Steward of her Household, that since her Distemper was abated, he might return to *Paris*; that, if her Fever grew more violent she wou'd send for him; but that in the mean time he and *le Tellier* together shou'd draw up her Will.

On Sunday, which was that of the *Holy Trinity*, the Queen-Mother was pretty well of her Fever; which, ever since that great shivering, had been continual, with violent Fits; but they were then abated, and the Conversation about her Bed-side began to turn upon agreeable Matters. Nay, she order'd us to make a little Murmuring in our Discourse, which in spite of her Pain, lull'd her to sleep for some Moments; I say for some Moments; for in the Condition she was in, tho she did not complain of it, 'twas impossible for her to have any repose; for she had the Heat of the Fever upon her, and the *St. Anthony's Fire* had over-spread, as it were, one half of her Body. Her Arm on the one side, where the Cancer was, was grown so big and swell'd, that next Morning the Sleeves of her Shift were forc'd to be cut to get it out. She had besides the Pain of her Cancer, which was the worst of all her Afflictions: And tho Death hasten'd its Approaches to her, her Constancy

was even greater than her Sufferings; and thro that Virtue, or rather thro the Grace which God gave her, she was able to say with *Seneca*, but in a more admirable manner, because she said it as a Christian, *Fever, Cancer, St. Anthony's Fire, Pains, you do me no harm; for nothing that God ordains can be call'd harm.* Monsieur, who was always thinking, as it were, of his Mother's Sufferings, ask'd her some Questions that Day concerning her Pains, and wish'd he was to suffer half of them for her sake; but she, in a strong Tone, wherein her Courage and Piety seem'd strictly joyn'd together, answer'd him, *My Son, that wou'd not be just; God is minded that I shou'd do Penance; I must at present be content with what he ordains; 'tis my part to suffer, and not yours:* and then giving ear to our Conversation, as we chanc'd to be speaking of some Memoirs that were written in the Reign of the late King, wherein she bore a great part; she joyn'd in with our Discourse, telling us sometimes, *that is true, or that is false;* and added some things that she believ'd the Author either knew not, or wou'd not relate.

On *Trinity Sunday* at Night, the Return of her Fever was very strong, and chang'd this short Interval of Tranquillity into fresh Alarms. I was that Day to have return'd to *Paris*; but when I saw the Fever seize her so roughly, I fear'd the Consequence, and stay'd almost all Night with her. She was very ill, had two Fits, and next Morning her Face seem'd also much inflam'd. Monsieur came thither, and sat at the Bed's-head, none but my

my Lord *Montague* and I being at the Bed-side. As this Prince mixt some small shew of Devotion in his Life, he spoke to his Mother about God, like a Man that had been perfect-ed in a Life of Prayer and Repentance; and we wonder'd how one of his Age cou'd speak so well of a thing so excellent; and which he did not yet make manifest by any true and solid Practice.

After this Conversation with Monsieur, she was desirous to hear Mass, and then she was let blood a second time; she was very bad all Day, and the Physicians seem'd confounded; but towards Night she was better, and I return'd to *Paris*. The next Day word was brought us that she still continu'd better; and indeed for some time her Cancer gave her less trouble, because the *St. Anthony's Fire* having discharg'd a great deal of Matter, had made that Part easy.

In the Journeys which I afterwards made to *St. Germain's*, I found the Queen-Mother mightily cast down; and it seem'd by her indifference that she began to reckon herself no longer among the Number of the living. One Day, when the Countess of *Flex* and I had the honour to be with her, we told her we were very much rejoic'd to see her better; but she answer'd us very coldly, *Why shou'd you that love me desire me to live? do not you see that my Life can be nothing else but one continu'd Suffering?* I answer'd her in a Transport of Consolation and Sorrow both at once, which made me weep. Well, Madame, *You live to suffer, to glorify God by your suffering, to re-*

lieve the Poor, and to do us all a Pleasure. She made me no Answer; but lifting up her Eyes and Hands to Heaven, she was for some time engag'd with God, and undoubtedly offering up a Prayer to him to live according to his holy Will.

On the Vigil of St. John, I being at St. Germain's, and alone with the two Queens in a little Closet that was near the Queen-Mother's Bed-side, who was now a little better, and began to get up; these two great Princesses were talking together a long while, about things that signify'd nothing, but such as seem indeed of great Consequence when they happen, and afflict the Minds of those that feel them*. Hereupon the Queen finding herself touch'd with the Consolation that is to be found in Love and Confidence, turn'd suddenly towards the Queen-Mother, and looking upon her very tenderly, said in Spanish with Tears in her Eyes, † *Mis Penas no seran nada, conquie Dios me Guarde a mi Madre, mais, continu'd that Princess, turning to me, Si la pierda, que hare?* The Queen-Mother, seeing that this Discourse made me hang my Head, and that I was affected with her words, in the manner I ought, first look'd at the Queen, and then at me, and did me the honour in a very calm and gentle manner to say, *You are both now in Tears; but do you see? both the*

* Some Particulars relating to the King's Love of Mademoiselle de la Valiere.

† My Pain wou'd be nothing, if God wou'd but preserve to me my Mother; but if I lose her, what shall I do?

Queen and you, that love me, must resolve to see me die very soon; for, in short, I cannot escape it; I have Death so very near me, that when I find I have got over a Day, I look upon it a kind of Miracle which I did not expect. I told her in answer, that for all her Illness and my Fears, I had nevertheless some hopes that she wou'd be cur'd by some extraordinary means; and that I cou'd not understand how the World cou'd subsist without her. But she laugh'd at me, and shaking her Head to let me know how little Impression my words made upon her, convinc'd me that she reckon'd my Hopes among the number of things incredible. At the same time she gave me to understand, that her Courage was not founded on the Ignorance of her Danger, or any chimerical Hopes; and that she laugh'd at the imaginary Comfort we gather'd from the words of such as promis'd to cure her.

The King neglected no means to save his Mother's Life; he had Trial made of those that came and offer'd to cure her: He often spoke to her of 'em, and us'd great Industry to find out Remedies and Medicines for her: but while he was endeavouring to discover who was most able to cure her, time pass'd away, and his Mother's Illness became every Day more incurable. I had more hopes in *Alliot* of *Lorraine* than in any other, and press'd the Queen-Mother to make use of him; because that *Vallot* and *Guenant*, the King's and Queen's Physicians, having been to see the Patients he had in cure, esteem'd him,

and thought the best Advice they cou'd give her, was to employ him. She had heard that his Remedies were violent, was afraid of them, and cou'd not bring herself to the Resolution of coming under his hands; she thought that he was not destin'd to cure her, but to be her Executioner: and one of the things I have most to grieve for is, that I ever knew him, or had any hand in persuading her to the Resolution which she was forc'd to take at last of making use of him. He was a Man, and consequently a Lyar; and he assur'd us so positively, that he cou'd by his Remedy cure this illustrious Princess, that we cou'd not but flatter ourselves with that agreeable Thought; and the rather, because he was a Physician by Profession, esteem'd in his own Country, and as I have just now said, in much Credit among our most famous Physicians.

Altho the Queen-Mother was sensible that she had but a short time to live; yet if any Persons she was not minded to discover her Pain to, came into her Chamber, she immediately put on a smiling Countenance, spoke to them of things she knew wou'd please them, enter'd into their Interests, their Affairs, their Wants, their Afflictions; and without thinking of her own Sufferings, reflected on the Calamities of others, in order to give them Comfort by her charitable Care, her Speeches, her Benefactions, or her Interest with the King.

During this short Interval of Amendment, the King went to spend some time at *Ver-*
sailles,

Sailles, and took with him the Queen, Monsieur, and Madame: This Princess was big with Child, and in her ninth Month. 'Twas said, that she did not take care enough of herself: I know not the Truth of that; but commonly speaking, Pleasure and Repose seldom go together. On the 18th of *July*, as I was going to *St. Germain* to pay my Duty to the Queen-Mother, I met Monsieur just coming from *Versailles*, where he had been a few days, and was going to see the Queen his Mother; as he pass'd by, he cry'd out to me, *Madame is deliver'd of a dead Daughter*. I was astonish'd at the News, and made what haste I cou'd to get thither, and know more perfectly what I had, in a manner, heard by halves. As I went into the Queen-Mother's Chamber, I found Monsieur alone with her, and very much afflicted with this Misfortune. They had told him, to comfort him, that the Child was baptiz'd: he much doubted it, and as what is Truth generally comes out, he was every way affected for the Death of this Child, whom he had lost before he had possess'd. The Queen-Mother sympathizing in his Sorrow, out of the Love she had for him, and the tender Sentiments of Nature, mixt her Tears with his, and exhorted him as much as she cou'd to submit to the Will of God. The Duke of *York*, Brother to Madame, had then beat the *Dutch* in a Sea Engagement, and gain'd very great Honour. It was believ'd, and not without reason, that before that Princess went to *Versailles*, she hearing this News, with some

fear of a contrary * Event, was so mov'd with it, that her Sorrow hasten'd her Delivery, and occasion'd the Death of the Child; for she had a very tender Love for her Brothers, and a vast Concern for the Grandeur of her Family. Monsieur too, when he was told this, was satisfy'd that was the real Cause, and did no longer believe that Madame had contributed to this Accident, by neglecting to take care of herself.

A few days after this, the Queen of *England* return'd to *France*, because the Air of *London* did not agree with her: she came to drink the Waters of *Bourbon*, which she always found very good for her Health. She arriv'd the 25th of *July*, on which Day the Queen-Mother relaps'd, having many fainting Fits, and something of a Fever. She was in this Condition two days, and the Physicians said there was nothing in it; but at last there appear'd a Tumour under her Arm, on the farther side of the Cancer. We hop'd that the Swelling wou'd break; but in vain, for we knew what it wou'd come to. Upon *St. Anne's* Day her Fever increas'd very much: The King, who was then at *Versailles*, return'd to see her. That was, at present, the Place of his Pleasures; but he intended to make it the Place of his Magnificence, and by what he laid out there, to let the World see what a great Prince can do when he is re-

* There was a Man, that without knowing what he said, ridiculously told Madame, that the Duke of *Tork* had lost the *Battel*.

solv'd to spare no Expence to please himself. He us'd often to carry Mademoiselle *de la Valliere* thither, and Madame us'd sometimes to go along with them. The Queen-Mother had been sorry for his Absence, and did me the honour to communicate her Concern to me. This good Mother spoke to him of it, and told him (as she acquainted me) that considering in the Condition she was in, his People wou'd murmur to see him wholly taken up with his Diversions, at a time that she lay threaten'd with speedy Death. He told her that she was much in the right, that he saw his Pleasures had carry'd him too far; and that he wou'd follow her Counsel, which he did not fail to do. He return'd however that same Day to receive the Queen of *England*, who as soon as she arriv'd in *France*, had a mind to go directly to *Versailles* to see Madame; but he did not stay long, and on the last Day of the Month return'd to the Queen his Mother, leaving the Ladies, his Friends, behind him, who was all for Merriment, and gave themselves no Uneasiness at what this great Princess suffer'd at *St. Germain*. Her Swelling was to be laid open, and the King came the very Evening before that Operation was to be done.

That Day the Queen-Mother seem'd to me to be better, and had some Moments relaxation from her excessive Pains. My Lord *Montague* and I stay'd with her till almost Midnight, and she frequently joyn'd in our Conversation. There was a little Story of that Day, not to be mention'd, which that Lord

and I were disputing about, when the constant Princess, leaning upon her Elbow, which was her usual Posture in Bed when she was well, said to us, as it were with a Smile, *You see I am talking with you like another body, and yet I suffer a great deal, and must to-morrow Morning have some Gasches with a Launcet in my Arm*: These were her very words, however we left her with sufficient Comfort on our Parts, because we thought her better, and that if her Swelling were launc'd, it wou'd be a great Relief to her other Ailments.

On Sunday, as I came from the Recolets, I met some People who told me that the Operation was over, and every thing as well as Heart cou'd wish; but Kings are always well in their Guard-Chamber, and Courtiers, who are accusom'd to flatter, think they go contrary to the true Laws of Policy, if they do but once speak the Truth. As soon as I went into the Queen-Mother's Chamber, I found her as pale as if she had been dead, faint, and in a cold Sweat; she had lost abundance of Spirits. The Swelling perhaps was launc'd too soon; and there came a great deal of Blood and Matter out of it, which, no doubt, occasion'd these dangerous Accidents in her. She had a pretty good Night, and yet every time she awoke, the Physicians found that her Pulse intermitted; which however they imputed to her fear of Pain; and I am persuaded they were not mistaken: That Princess had apparently a Sense, that Nature hates every thing which is contrary to it, and that her Body was not of the same Complexion with her Soul;

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Soul; her Courage proceeded not from Insensibility: on the contrary, never was there a Person that had stronger Apprehensions of what we call Indisposition, or Inconveniency, than she. The greatness of her Birth had accustom'd her to the use of things that were delicate, and conducive to the ease of the Body; and her niceness in this respect was so very great, that one wou'd wonder how her Virtue came to make her so harsh to herself. Her natural Inclination, and the fineness of her Skin was such, that whatever was innocently delightful she lik'd: She lov'd Perfumes passionately; it was a hard matter to get Linen fine enough to make her Sheets and Shifts; and before she cou'd use them, they must be several times wash'd to make them softer. Cardinal *Mazarine*, bantring her often upon it when she was in perfect health, said, *That if she went to Hell, she wou'd need no other Punishment than to lie in Holland Sheets.* There is reason therefore to believe that the Strength of her Mind, which seem'd to bear her up against Nature, Self-Love and Custom, cou'd not forbear being shock'd at the sight of the Launcet; and that while her Soul resisted the Agitation of her Heart, she no doubt underwent a terrible Conflict. The Operation which was made prov'd extremely painful; yet she never cry'd out, made no Complaint, nor shew'd any fainting: on the contrary, instead of making her forget herself, the Excess of her Pain bound her as it were closer to God; and as they were launcing her Swelling, for they were forc'd to repeat the Strokes

of the Launcet) she said, *O Lord, I offer up to Thee these Pains, receive them for the Satisfaction of my Sins; I suffer them willingly, O Lord, since it is thy Will.* After this cruel Torment, this courageous Princess was a long time in a sort of fainting Fit, her Pulse continu'd irregular, and the cold Sweats that still hung upon her made the Physicians believe that she was going to die. They resolv'd to say nothing to her of it, till at Night after she had been dress'd; but they told her she had a bad Pulse. She soon perceiv'd the Condition she was in; for at Four a-Clock in the Afternoon, when I had the honour to be alone with her at her Bed-side, she ask'd me what the Physicians said; and I answering sorrowfully, that they believ'd her ill, she seem'd not at all astonish'd, but thought they were much in the right. The King, Queen, and Monsieur were all full of Grief, each lamenting their own Infelicity. At Night when she came to be dress'd, all that had any Interest in her Life were in that deep Concern which arises from the fear of losing what we love. Her Wound was dry'd up and look'd black; her Cancer was also in a bad Condition; her Pulse was weak and intermitting, and her continual Faintings made the Physicians think that she had not long to live. They did not delay therefore to apprize her of the Danger she was in; and the Abbot de Montague, who had always promis'd to tell her when it wou'd be time to think of Death, drew near to acquaint her *that she must go.* She receiv'd the News like a Person prepar'd for the great Journey of

of Eternity, and who by daily Meditation, had render'd herself familiar with Death. She made all diligent haste to do what she was to do in order to die; but it was with her usual Tranquillity, and the calmness of her Soul did not seem to be ruffled with what gives Trouble to all Mankind. She call'd her Confessor to her, and after she had confess'd, they brought her the Holy *Viaticum*: she look'd all the Day as pale as Death, and was scarce ever free from Faintings; but at the sight of her Creator, her Strength return'd, and her Eyes seem'd as if on fire with the Love of God. All the Royal Family, and those that had the honour to see her, took notice that she never look'd so beautiful as then: The Archbishop of *Auch*, her Chief Almoner, gave her the Holy Sacrament, which the King and Monsieur went to the Parish Church, to meet with the Attendance and Respect due to the King of Kings. This Archbishop holding our Saviour in his hands, said many good things to this august Queen: He had the honour to belong to her a great while, and as he was giving her the Author of Life, he was thorowly affected with the Dread of Death: His Tears were follow'd with the Sobs and Sighs of all that were in the Chamber of the Queen, who so justly deserv'd them. She was the only Person that seem'd easy; and considering the Calm and Serenity that reign'd in her Countenance, 'twas easy to perceive that she long'd for the Enjoyment of eternal Happiness; and that after having worshipp'd her God and Creator on Earth, she hop'd to be able very soon to possess

self him in Heaven. When she had receiv'd him, she continu'd some time in Meditation, and then desir'd Extreme Unction. They told her there was no haste for that; but she insisting on it, they promis'd it shou'd be brought and given to her when it was time. At last, she desir'd that the holy Oil might be set upon an Altar that was in the little Closet I have already mention'd, where Mass us'd every Day to be said to her; and then she call'd the King and Monsieur to her. She talk'd some time with the King, and begg'd him aloud to love Monsieur: *And you, my Son,* said she to Monsieur, *I know I need not command you to love the King, and obey him, and stick close to him all your Life; for I know you will not fail doing this: but I beg you both, for the Love of me, to love one another.* Whereupon these two great Princes embrac'd each other tenderly, and by their Tears, more than their Words, promis'd an everlasting Friendship. This virtuous and illustrious Mother call'd the King and Monsieur back several times to speak to them: She recommended to the King the things she desir'd him to do, one of which I chanc'd to overhear, viz. the finishing of *Val de Grace*. After that, she call'd together all her Children, and said, *Come, my dear Children, receive my Blessing.* Then these four Persons, the King, the Queen, Monsieur, and Madame (who, tho' hardly recover'd since her Lying-in, came that Day from *Versailles*) fell down on their Knees before her, and kissing her hand, which they bath'd with their Tears,

receiv'd

receiv'd her Blessing for themselves, and for their Children; and the Queen their Mother, as she was blessing them, had this remarkable Expression, *I pray God bless you, I charge you to honour and fear him; I conjure you to think of your Salvation, which is the only thing of any great importance to you.* And when she had so done, she begg'd them to retire. Soon after, she call'd the Archbishop of *Auch* to her, and pray'd him to assist her in the Hour of Death; she call'd her Confessor likewise, talk'd with him a pretty while, and as he was going away call'd him back several times; and when some People came to talk to her about other Matters, she begg'd them not to speak to her of any thing but God, and what concern'd her Salvation. The Archbishop of *Auch* made a long Discourse to her upon the Mercies of God, the Terror of his Judgments, the Fear we shou'd have of him, and the Trust we shou'd place in him. I had the honour to be the only Woman that was with her all that Night; and an Honour it was I value very much. The Countess of *Flex*, her Lady of Honour, was then at *Paris* with the Duchess of *Foix*, her Daughter-in-Law, who was then a dying; and the Duchess of *Navailles*, her Tire-woman, was gone to drink the Waters. This admirable Princess desir'd me to read her some Chapters out of *Gerson*, a Book that she was always fond of; I did so, and while the Archbishop of *Auch* was by, turn'd to such Chapters as treated of Death, and the necessity of suffering for *Jesus Christ*. They were very good and proper to comfort

comfort her Soul; she had that Relish of them herself, and often said with Consolation, *Oh! how good is that;* and commanded me to read the Places over again that most affected her. The Archbishop told her, that she was going to change a corruptible for an incorruptible Crown; but that to obtain this last of God's Mercies, she must offer up from her Heart that which she possess'd on Earth: to which she answer'd, *Alas! that Sacrifice is nothing, I esteem my Crown no more than Dirt.* The Archbishop and my Lord Montague both retir'd to let her have a little Rest; and the Bedchamber Women that watch'd with her being upon their Watch-Beds, I was left alone with her; at this Instant, one wou'd have thought her Nature, weary'd out with suffering, and a long Application of the Mind, demanded some Rest; but she imagining she was too much inclin'd to sleep, wak'd all on a sudden, and turning in a hurry towards the side where I was, did me the honour to say to me, *I am not willing to sleep, lest Death shou'd come upon me when I don't think on't.* I told her, that (Thanks be to God) I did not see her in any such Danger, and that she wou'd do well to take a little Rest. Hereupon I began to read again, and she fell asleep; at Three a-Clock they dress'd her, and chang'd the Ointment. After that she slept some hours, and when she awoke, she did me the honour to tell me, *That she was surpriz'd to find her Pulse continue so bad, because then she found herself better and stronger.* I call'd in the Physicians to know how it beat; they found.

found it still the same, and consequently she seem'd to be bad enough. In the Morning, Monsieur came to see her, and stay'd a long while with her. About Eight a-Clock, on the 3d of *August*, *Beringhen*, who was call'd *Monsieur le Premier*, came into her Chamber; he was one of her oldest Servants, and I have spoke of him in several places of these *Memoirs*. As soon as she saw him, she said to him, *Monsieur le Premier, I must leave you*. He answer'd her very coldly, according to his usual manner of speaking and acting, as if he were made of Ice; *You may imagine, Madame, with what Sorrow it is that your Servants receive this Sentence; but it is some Comfort to us to see your Majesty releas'd from such great Torments, and from a great Inconveniency besides, particularly to her that loves Perfumes; for these Distempers at last have a noisome Smell*. The *Mareschal de Plessis* came in at the same time, before she had answer'd *Beringhen*; but looking at the Person that was entring, she made him a short Speech about the Necessity of leaving this World, and doing Penance: she said as much to the *Mareschal d' Aumont*, who stood likewise before her; and seeing *d' Herval* behind the rest, who was a *Hugonot*, and who under Cardinal *Mazarine's* Administration, had serv'd the King in his Finances, she wish'd, she said, speaking to him, *That God wou'd give him Grace to be converted*. Monsieur, who sat upon the Bolster of her Bed shed Tears at every Word his Mother said, and mixing Sentiments of Piety with his Grief, gave

gave the Company, by what he said to her, room to hope, that for all the Weakness he might be inclin'd to, he wou'd one Day follow the Steps of the Queen his illustrious Mother.

She had sent for *le Tellier* and *Tubenf*, who then arriv'd; and as she saw them, she call'd to *Mademoiselle de Beauvais*, who by her Virtue and Merit, had acquir'd in her Esteem the Advantage to be preferr'd before her Mother in Trusts of Honour and Distinction, and bad her open her Cabinet, and give them a Memorandum, wrote with her own Hand, expressing her last Will, which she gave them with order to go and engross it. Not long after, she sign'd it and sent it to the King, desiring him to read it; but he sign'd it without ever looking on it, which pleas'd her mightily, and she mention'd it publicly as a very worthy Action which had much oblig'd her. After all these things were done thus peaceably and quietly, she fell asleep; and when she awak'd a second time her Pulse was better: when she was dress'd, her Wound look'd not so bad, and they gave her Cordials which did her a great deal of good.

In the Afternoon the Physicians were for purging the Queen-Mother, and gave her some Physick by which she found Relief: Great Joy immediately ran thro the Court; but as her Purging had fatigu'd her much, her Pulse seem'd again to be low and bad, and People relaps'd into the Terrors of the Day before. However, after she had taken a little Nourishment, and refresh'd her Soul with a few Chapters of the

Imitation of Christ, which I read to her, she fell asleep, and had a pretty good Night. On *Tuesday* her Pulse chang'd and grew better; she had great Pain in her Cancer, and no less in her Wound; but for all that, the Physicians told the King and the whole Court the agreeable News that she was out of Danger.

But the Queen-Mother's great Afflictions were not yet over, and what they call'd Amendment, was to her a cruel and fatal Malady. When these two sad days of *Sunday* and *Monday* were pass'd, I said to that constant Princess, that I had admir'd, and was even astonish'd at her Fortitude in the almost certain Prospect of Death. She did me the honour to answer me, not in a boasting way, but with an humble Sincerity, *No body is fond of dying; but 'tis certain God has given me the Grace to be less troubled at it than others.*

The King being then under a Necessity to find out some Remedy for his Mother's Distemper, advis'd her to quit *Gendron*, which she was ready enough to do, because of the ill Condition of her Cancer, which instead of being harden'd, was open'd on every side; and because of her Breast, in which were several places full of Holes. In this Extremity, and by the Advice of the Physicians, she put herself under *Allior's* Hands, which gave great Joy to many People that were zealous for her Preservation; for they hop'd that if he did not cure her, he wou'd at least prolong her Life; but when he was sent for, he found her too ill, he said, to be able to apply his Remedies to her with any Hopes of Success: The King
howe-

however commanded him to try and do the best he cou'd.

The Physicians, after several Consultations, concluded, that if *Alliot's* Medicines were to be made use of, the Queen-Mother must be carry'd to *Paris*; but the Condition she was in seem'd to make the thing impossible. The Pains of her Cancer were excessive; the Matter that came from her Tumour was foul; she was weak, and the Physicians themselves wou'd not presume, that with all these Ailments about her, she cou'd be able to bear the Fatigue of such a Journey. They remov'd her from *St. Germain's*, because they believ'd, no doubt, that the King desir'd it; for I can imagine no other reason, considering that those they alledg'd were not good, because Kings may be serv'd every where alike; and 'tis one of the Advantages of their Grandeur, that they can, when they please, have able People of all Arts to follow and assist them. They laid this great Princess therefore all along in a Chair that was cover'd with black Velvet, and she was wrapp'd in a Mantle of grey Taffety. She was put into it at her Chamber-Door, being assisted by the King, Queen, Monsieur and Madame: she was carry'd gently in this little Machine, and had Officers following her with Cordials and Vinegar to give her, in case she shou'd faint. It was impossible for me to look upon her in this sort of Tomb, without being melted by a thousand different Thoughts, all full of Grief and Anxiety, and without making deep Reflections on humane Misery, which subjects the greatest Persons
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of the World to its hard Laws and Sufferings, many times with more bitterness and slavery than the meanest Creatures upon Earth.

There was reason to believe, considering the Condition of this illustrious sick Person, that the Air wou'd have taken away her Spirits; but it was quite otherwise, she found herself stronger, and when she was come to *Nanterre*, and was in the great Hall of the Nuns of *St. Genevieve*, where without going out of her Chair she took a little Rest; she did us the honour to tell us that she was better: she din'd there with a good Appetite, and eat a Pullet with Caper Sauce. I take notice of this particular, because I remember, with Grief, the Joy we were then in; for this seem'd to give us Assurance that the Strength of her Constitution wou'd make a Stand against her Distemper: so that we went to Dinner with the same Pleasure, that Hope gives to those who are apprehensive of a great Misfortune, which they extremely desire to avoid: and we already thought *Alliot* had done Wonders.

The Queen-Mother proceeding on her Journey, happily arriv'd at *Val de Grace*, where she had a long while desir'd to be. As soon as she saw herself in that sacred House, she express'd a great Sense of Comfort; and laying herself upon her Bed, she said to the Abbess, *Now I am content, let God dispose of me according to his Will.* The Night following she was very bad; her Motion the Day before had made her Sore worse, and the next Day it appear'd to be gangreen'd. The Physicians,
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not content with being at *Paris*, found it inconvenient for them to come to *Val de Grace* every Day, and said one and all, that the Queen-Mother must be brought to the *Louvre*, and that it was impossible to help her in that place, where the Gates cou'd not be open'd without a great deal of Ceremony. The Truth is, Complaisance, I believe, had a great share in what they said; and they multiply'd their Reasons upon this Presumption, that her Return wou'd not be displeasing either to the King or the Court; for it was a great Fatigue, not only to the Royal Family, but to the Princess's Officers likewise, to be oblig'd frequently to go so far. Madame *de Beauvais*, * who was restor'd to the Queen-Mother, because her Service was found necessary, was for removing her from the Convent: She clamour'd loudly against her Stay there, and said that it was even impossible there to get new laid Eggs. I am apt to believe, that if the King had known that the Queen Mother wou'd have been so loth to leave this Retreat, as she really was, he wou'd not have suffer'd such Violence to be offer'd to her, and wou'd have detested, no doubt, the Physicians Complaisance, which depriv'd him of the Satisfaction of pleasuring the Queen his Mother; but as they all believ'd that it wou'd be no Disobligation to save him a little Trouble, all manner of Aggravations were made use of to prove to her the Necessity of going from *Val de Grace*.

* First Bedchamber Woman to the Queen-Mother, and disgrac'd for many good Reasons.

and so the King easily suffer'd himself to be prevail'd upon by their Entreaty to have her brought back to the *Louvre*, and to deprive her of a Consolation which all her Life long she seem'd to desire.

When therefore, with all their Noise, they had brought the Queen-Mother to a Resolution to depart, they put Lime-Water into her Sore, and plac'd her again in her Chair to carry her to the *Louvre*. As I lodg'd in the Royal Palace, I was not there on the Morning of that terrible Day to pay my Duty to her. Monsieur, whom I waited upon as soon as he was awake, to know what News about his Mother, did me the honour to acquaint me with her Return, and that her Sore was mortify'd: from that very time I began to conclude, that we must lose her, and that her Nature was too much weaken'd to resist this last Accident. I made no doubt likewise, but that she was troubled, she cou'd not stay at *Val de Grace*, and ran strait to the *Louvre* to wait for her coming. As I went within the Ballister, whither she was brought in the same Chair that carry'd her from *St. Germain*s to *Paris*, she saw me, and did me the honour to look upon me in such a manner, as quickly gave me to understand what she thought. As I advanc'd to her, I said, that I prais'd God to see her practise the Virtues of the Nuns of *St. Mary*, one of the chief of which is Self-denial in all things. She only answer'd me by shrugging her Shoulders, and lifting up her Eyes to Heaven. They then put her to bed, apply'd the Lime Water afresh; and her
Pains

Pains increas'd with such Violence, that one Night after (as she herself acknowledg'd) she was like to have run distracted; her Courage and Pain contended together with equal Force: but when her Pain came to Extremity, this admirable Princess was once forc'd to cry out, that *she cou'd bear it no longer*. As the Countess of *Flex*, who was now return'd to her, drew near, and was going to represent to her how she ought to bear the Cross with Jesus Christ; to so Christian a Speech the Queen-Mother full of Faith, tho overwhelmed with the terrible Suffering, return'd these remarkable words, *Ab! Madam, say nothing to me, I find I lose my Reason; and in my present Condition, I'm afraid I shall not receive what you are minded to say, with respect enough*. After she had continu'd thus some days, the Remedies at last overcame the Gangreen; but her Ulcer was still so bad, that the Physicians thought it either to be another Cancer, or else a cancerous Ulcer: They were sorry to pronounce the Sentence of Death; some of them were a considerable while before they said that she had but a short time to live; others, that her natural Heat decay'd, and that she had an Intermision in her Pulse: *Alliot* said, that she was too far gone to apply his Remedies; and none of them, in short, gave her any Hopes either of a Cure, or of Life.

In this Condition, the Queen-Mother continu'd till the 22d of *August*, when all on a sudden she found herself much better, her Sore look'd more kindly: and whereas before

it sunk deeper in every Day, it now began to fill and purge, and her Fever was quite abated; insomuch, that this Amendment of hers made her able to bear *Alliot's* Remedies. To our Misfortune, he began to apply them to her on the 24th of the same Month, and no sooner was this courageous Queen rid of one Tortment, but she was subject to another, not less violent, and of much longer Continuance. To prevail with his illustrious Patient, the better to like his cruel Method, *Alliot* soften'd at first the Force of his Remedies; so that at the beginning she had some short Intervals of Ease, and her Physicians gave her hopes of good Success from this Man's Knowledg. They deaden'd her Flesh, and then cut off Slices with a Razor; which was an astonishing Operation, and perform'd every Morning and Evening in the Presence of the whole Royal Family, of the Physicians, Surgeons, and all other Persons that had the honour to serve that Princess, and to approach her with any Familiarity. She was doubtless very uneasy to expose to the Sight of so many Persons, a part of her Body, where that Monster of a Cancer that she carry'd in her Breast had still left a Part that deserv'd to be admir'd; but as she then knew how to judge solidly of this World, she no longer look'd upon what was once the Subject of her Vanity; but with an holy Dread and Indignation against herself, which made her desirous to offer continual Sacrifices of herself to the divine Justice, she saw her Flesh cut with a commendable Patience and Meekness, and us'd often to say,

That she never thought she shou'd have had a Fate so different from other Creatures; that no body rotted till after Death; but as for her, God had condemn'd her to Corruption while alive. Her Sufferings were always very great, but they were excessive when *Alliot's* Remedies touch'd the quick Flesh; and at last they were so extreme that she cou'd not sleep, and they were forc'd every Night to give her the Syrrup of Poppy. 'Twas by this only, which was first apply'd about the 18th of *July*, that she cou'd find any Relaxation of her Pain; and tho it was easy to see that this Remedy hasten'd her Death, yet it was impossible to blame the Use of it, because this destructive Ease gave some short Intervals to her tedious Torment. On some days, however, and at certain times, both *Vallot* and *Guenaut*, who had so often given her over, said, *That she wou'd not die of her Cancer*; but they were mistaken in every Point, and I never knew them once make a right Judgment in this Distemper.

Notwithstanding all these Maladies that the Queen-Mother's Body was afflicted with, her Mind, always bent to do good, was incessantly employ'd for the Service of Mankind in general, or of particular Persons. As I certainly knew, that she wish'd well to the Duke and Duchess of *Navailles*, and that she honour'd them with her Esteem and Remembrance; I spoke to her of them, and intimated to her what an Instance it wou'd be of her Goodness, warmly to espouse their Cause with the King, and so put an end to their Exile. I engag'd
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the Abbot *de Montague* to intercede for them, and we prevail'd with her to speak about them to the King, which she did in the most earnest manner possible. The King return'd her a very favourable Answer as to the Duke of *Navailles*; saying, as he always us'd to do, that he was an honest Man, and had serv'd him well, and that he was very willing he shou'd be as much about him as all other Persons of Quality in his Kingdom were; but as to the Duchess his Wife, he said, that he wou'd not yet see her, and desir'd her to ask nothing for her. The Queen-Mother was content for that time in having obtain'd leave for the Husband's Return, and said she wou'd ask nothing for the Wife since the King was against it; but she begg'd that he wou'd be pleas'd to let her send to the Duke of *Navailles* that he might come to Court: but finding afterwards, as I imagine, that it wou'd be better to order *le Tellier* to do it; she sent for him next Day, and spoke to him about it. That Minister, who had all along made great Professions of being that Lord's Friend, and was so indeed in some Matters of no great Difficulty, seem'd to receive the Order with a good deal of coldness, and only told the Queen-Mother that he wou'd obey her. I saw that Minister, when he came to receive her Orders: But tho I was well enough satisfy'd of his good Intentions, I wou'd not discover that I was privy to the Secret, for fear of making him think the less of the Queen-Mother's Intercession, and therefore stay'd in expectation of what wou'd be the Event of it:

All that I did was to write to my Friends, that they wou'd have shortly some News by the common Post that wou'd be of importance to them. I did not explain myself farther, because having very little, if any doubt, whether the Queen-Mother wou'd be obey'd, I was willing to let them have the Pleasure of being agreeably surpriz'd by a Courier from the King and the Queen his Mother. The Courier never came, and by all the Letters they sent me, it appear'd that they continu'd at home very peaceably. When I saw a Fort-night gone, and no Thoughts of them, I spoke about them to the Queen, who was astonish'd at it. The Abbot *de Montague* went by her Orders to know of *le Tellier* what was the Occasion of this Silence, and to tell him that she thought it very strange she had heard no News of the Duke of *Navailles*. *Le Tellier* seem'd surpriz'd, and told the Abbot that he had represented to the Queen-Mother, when she did him the honour to speak to him about that Affair, the ill effect her Goodness for the banish'd Person might have, and that thereupon he did not advise her to send for the Duke of *Navailles*; protesting to my Lord *Montague*, that he had spoke to the King about it; but that he did not think it proper to do what the Queen-Mother had commanded him. He also told him in confidence, that the King wou'd not bear the disgrac'd Person to receive Favours from any hand but his own. I was not at all surpriz'd at that, for the King's Nature always led him to assume the whole Glory of every thing to himself, in
which

which he did but follow the Maxims that all Sovereigns usually practise. There is reason to believe likewise that this Minister, who was a very able one, and as much concern'd to preserve himself in Favour, as the King was to support his Authority, had said to him upon this Subject whatever cou'd please a Master, who was fond of having every thing look as if it proceeded from his Will only : his Fear too perhaps of being suspected to favour the Persons in Exile, increas'd his Complaisance : for Friends that will hazard nothing, are sometimes more dangerous on such Occasions than open Enemies. I will not positively say that *le Tellier* was such a one, as I then suspected him to be ; but as of all his Friends he lov'd himself best, I am apt to believe that he naturally enter'd into the Maxims of the King's false Glory, and very easily commended what among Politicians passes for a necessary Piece of Management. I acquainted the Queen-Mother with what my Lord *Montague* said to me, and withal told her *le Tellier's* Answer. That Princess, who notwithstanding all her Pains, always study'd the Interest of those she honour'd with her Good-will, did me the honour to say to me smartly, and with some sort of Passion, that *le Tellier* had done wrong in not performing her Commands, that he was a weak sorry Friend, and that he had ly'd, those were her very words, when he said he had advis'd her not to send for the Duke of *Navailles* ; and she concluded at last that she wou'd speak to him of it once more : She did so, and averr'd to him that she had the King's

Promise for it, and positively commanded him to send a Courier to the Duke in their Names. *Le Tellier*, far from flinching, made a thousand and a thousand Difficulties, and told her that he was the Duke of *Navailles's* Friend; but he did not think it his Interest to return so soon. The Queen-Mother however decided the matter in these words, *M. le Tellier, the King my Son is a Man of too much Sense and Honour to go from the Word that he has given me; I wou'd have you therefore send to the Duke of Navailles both from him and me: and at the same time I give you leave to inform him of all your Objections, and to write to him either to come and see the King and me, or to follow your Instructions.* Two days after, viz. on Thursday Night, which was the 10th Instant, the King came to see the Queen his Mother, and said to her publickly, that as he knew she had a kindness for the Duke of *Navailles*, he let her know that he intended to put him in the Command of the Countries of *Aunis*, *Rockelle*, and *Brouage*, in the room of the Duke of *Nevers*, who was in *Italy*. The Queen-Mother was very much rejoic'd at this News: she was the first that gave him infinite Commendations, and seem'd to take no notice that ever she had spoke to him in the Duke's Favour. All the Court prais'd the King, and all admir'd his Generosity in not only forgiving a Man that had disoblig'd him, but heaping Benefits upon him, when, it seem'd, he durst not so much as hope for a Pardon. The King himself sent a Courier to the Duke of *Navailles* with the Patents for these great Govern-

Governments, which oblig'd both him and his Duchess to live at a distance from Court, where the King was not willing they shou'd come. This cunning Prince, both to keep them from Court, and to pleasure the Queen his Mother at the same time, found out this laudable Method, which indeed was very well for the unfortunate Exiles, was in some measure satisfactory to the Queen his Mother, and glorious to himself: it might have prov'd also to his Service, since the Duke of *Nava-illes* was a very proper Person to serve him in so considerable a Post, as absolutely requir'd a Man of Fidelity and great Capacity. From this Conduct of the King's, one may judge how eager he was of Glory, since he wou'd not suffer the least Mite of it to fall to the Queen his Mother. This was being too greedy; but 'tis observable that the Hunger which occasion'd this Gluttony, as defective as it is, has always been found in great Princes, and has been in many others the Source of all their brave Actions. The King was willing to keep the great Men of his Kingdom attach'd to him by Benefactions, which are the best and strongest Bands; he was for reconciling every body to himself, and by his Conduct on this Occasion, we may see that he out-stripp'd all the Finess of *Lewis XI.* What made it more honourable to him was, its being exempt from all manner of Malice, and attended with good Effects. There wanted indeed nothing to satisfy the Queen-Mother but a Mixture of Sincerity with his ambitious and nice Jealousy; for she was very capable of being admitted

into a Confidence with him upon his Interests, and incapable of having any herself that cou'd be prejudicial to him. No body therefore spoke of this Princess, and they were but few that knew the share she had in the good Action which the King did. One Day I told her, to divert her, that I had a good mind to publish it, that she deserv'd to share the Glory which was wholly given to the King; and that I was resolv'd she shou'd be prais'd for it as well as he: She forbid me very seriously to speak of it to any body whatsoever, and did me the honour to say, *What I had a mind to be done, is done, and with better Advantage to these poor People; for the King, that wou'd not see them, has given them more than I durst have ask'd him. Thanks be to God,* says she to me again, *I do not trouble my self about Praise, I am very well pleas'd for the King to have it all; and I wish he may live such a virtuous Life as to deserve it.*

The Duke and Duchess of Navailles receiv'd the King's Courier with a great deal of Joy and Thanks to him; but as to the Queen-Mother, whose Goodness I had acquainted them with in my Letters, they did not boast of it, but were very silent as to every thing which cou'd have any relation to that Princess. Besides the Reasons they had to say nothing, they might probably have another; which, as I have always observ'd, is naturally written upon the Hearts of those that receive Favours from Court; and that is, to seem to owe them to none but to him that has the disposal of them,

them, as supposing that the Appearance of their Gratitude will oblige him to confer new ones upon them. Humane Pride likewise hinders Men from owning their Obligation to the Care and Application of their Friends for the things they obtain, as thinking that they are rather due to their own Worth and Services.

The Queen-Mother, not content with extending her Care to private Persons, had a desire likewise before she dy'd, to contribute to the Confirmation of the Peace she had made between the King her Son, and the King her Brother. To this purpose she order'd the Marquis of Fuentes, the *Spanish* Ambassador in *France*, to write to his Master according to her Directions, and to let him know that she advis'd him to think of disposing of his Affairs in such a manner as to leave a well establish'd Peace in *Europe*; that he shou'd *bona fide*, make Satisfaction to the King her Son for the just Pretensions he had to *Flanders*; since by the Laws of those Provinces they seem'd to belong to the Queen. But her just Wishes had not their desir'd effect: on the contrary, she had the Misfortune to lose that Brother she lov'd so well, without any hopes of leaving her Family in the sure Possession of what she had procur'd for them with so much Pains.

The King of *Spain* dy'd on the 17th of *September*, and the News of it arriv'd at Court on the 27th. The Queen was that Day gone to the *Carmelites*; the King sent her word to come back again into her own Apartment in the *Louvre*, where he was

waiting for her in her Chamber, and not to go in to the Queen-Mother till he had seen her. The Queen came back very soon, full of Trouble and Uneasiness at the King's sending for her; and as soon as she had got in, desir'd to know the meaning of it, and whether the Queen-Mother was worse. The King said, No; but that he had bad News to tell her, and that he was sorry to acquaint her that the King her Father was extremely ill. The Queen perceiving that he meant to say, *was dead*; cry'd out and said, *I have lost him, tell me, I see it is but too true. You may guess the rest*, said the King, *for I cannot tell it you*: and when she saw that it was doubtless so, she swoon'd away in his Arms, wept grievously, and was in such real Concern as made the King mix some Tears with those which she shed in abundance. After the first Torrent of our Grief was over (which to our shame is over with all People but too soon) she went to bed, and the next Day lay till Night; but having then a mind to see the Queen-Mother, she put on a mourning Veil, and went down into her Chamber. That Princess, being as it were at Death's Door, wept when she heard the News, and speaking to the King her Brother, she only said, *that she shou'd follow him quickly*. When she understood that the Queen was come to see her, she commanded us all to leave the Room, that they might, without doubt, lament their mutual Loss with more Freedom. The two great Princesses embrac'd each other with Sorrow, and with that Tribute of Tears, which was due to the tender Affection

Affection that the Prince they lamented always had for them both. The Ambassador of *Spain*, who was the only Witness of their Sorrow, joyn'd his Tears with those which were shed on this Occasion by the two first Women in the World for Grandeur and Dignity. He and *Molina*, the only Woman that was suffer'd to be there, endeavour'd to comfort them with the Consideration of the eternal Happiness, which in all probability that Prince enjoy'd. He had always been unhappy; but in his latter Years had made a good use of his Afflictions, his Losses, and his Sickness: and had made a Sacrifice of every thing to the Divine Justice, that he might by such Penance avoid the just Punishment of his Sins, and of both his publick and private Debaucheries; which by his Example, gave great Encouragement to the Vices of his People, who are at this time become infamous for their dissolute Manners. After this sad Interview, the two Ladies of Honour, the Countess of *Flex*, the Duchess of *Montausier*, and myself, return'd into the Chamber, where was a long Silence between the two Queens, and a very dull Conversation betwixt us, till the Queen went up into her own Chamber; where the King, as soon as the Council rose, came to sup with her. He was minded perhaps to make some Advantage of the Condition wherein the Death of the King of *Spain* had put his Kingdom. He had left behind him but one Child, a little younger than the *Dauphin*, and so very unhealthy, that he was not like to live; for he was the Son of a Father suspected to have great

a great many Ailments, and who by the Loss of his other Children gave Occasion to believe, that it was an hard matter for him to derive Health to others who had none himself. But as God gives it where he pleases, this young King, after his Father's decease, seem'd to have a greater share of it than cou'd reasonably be expected: and there was then Advice from *Spain*, that he was come to the Crown not only with good hopes of Life, but a Life attended with Prosperity; for when, according to the Custom of the Country, he was proclaim'd King, his Subjects took it for a good Omen, that as two Chairs were presented to him, the one embroider'd with Gold and Pearls, but very old and much tarnish'd, as having formerly serv'd *Charles V.* but the other quite new polish'd and shining with rich Embroidery, he took that which belong'd to his illustrious Grandfather, repeating of his own accord the Person's words that told him it had serv'd that Emperor, * *A servido a Carlos quinto? pues, en nombre de dios, me quiero sentar en ella.*

While the Queen-Mother was thus suffering, and the Queen weeping for the Loss of her Father; the King, who by the long Sickness of the Queen his Mother, was more inur'd to Sorrow, suffer'd himself to be drawn away by his Pleasures. He, and Monsieur, little dreaming that their Mother's Illness wou'd end so soon, agreed this Winter, which

* Did *Charles V.* make use of it? then, in the Name of God, I'll sit in it.

was the proper time for Diversions, even in spite of their Reason, to follow the Dictates of Nature, which is always better pleas'd with Joy than Sadness.

1666. On the Vigil of Epiphany, (*viz.* January the 5th) there was a great Ball at Monsieur's, who notwithstanding all the Love he had for his Mother, did not forego his Pleasure. Before the Ball, there was a great Supper serv'd up with all the Magnificence proper on such Occasions. The Queen herself, who went not that Year to any Diversions, adjusted the King's Habit, which was of Purple Cloth, (because he was in mourning for his Father-in-Law the King of *Spain*) but so cover'd with large Pearls and Diamonds, as was wonderful to see. Monsieur and Madame were also neatly dress'd, and both were fond to let the World see that they were amiable. Monsieur had no Passion that seem'd to give him any Torment: Instead of being in love with the Ladies Beauty, he aim'd to make them in love with his, and was not displeas'd with their Commendations: he diverted himself in their Company; but by his whole Procedure, seem'd to have so much Innocence in his Heart, as to them, that the Women of the most dangerous Charms liv'd with him, and he with them, as modestly as if he had been one of their Sex. This Entertainment was made (as was pretended) upon account of some Strangers of Consideration, to whom the King had a mind to shew the Beauty and Grandeur of the Court.

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That being the 6th of *January*, the King and Monsieur were oblig'd to put a Stop to their Pleasures for the Space of two Days; the Queen their Mother being also grown much worse. The next Day, which was the Feast of *Epiphany*, she relaps'd; her Fever return'd with more Violence, she had a great shivering, and another St. *Anthony's* Fire appear'd, which they say is an ordinary effect of Cancers. The Queen-Mother being in this Condition in a manner worse than dead, they imagin'd that she must needs be weary'd out with *Alliot's* Remedy, which gave her such intolerable Pains, without Intermission; but she spoke nothing of it, and they were forc'd to guess as well as they cou'd. Many were for having her leave him, and put herself into the hands of a Man, who said he came from *Milan*, in order to settle in *France*; and that he had an infallible Remedy for her Distemper. The *Spanish* Ambassador had wrote into *Italy* to make enquiry about him; but the Account was not to his Advantage, only a Woman that he had in hand, thought herself better since she had made use of him. The Queen-Mother was so very indifferent as to her Life, that she seem'd to be under no Determination whether to keep to *Alliot*, or to leave him. When it was propos'd to her to change him, she said, that perhaps another might prove worse, and she seem'd to have a firm Resolution to suffer; she resign'd herself entirely to the Will of God. Every one was for giving her Advice, but she took none; nor seem'd she very desirous to hear them. All that

that spoke to her about her case, she refer'd to the King, and desir'd him to give Orders; he seem'd to be very diligent in the matter, and made it appear he had still the same Affection for her as ever: but she grew worse, and her Physicians, who not long before, during her Amendment, said that she wou'd not die of her Cancer, despair'd of her Cure, and not knowing what to do more, perswaded her to make use of this Man from *Milan*: She soon consented to it, without shewing either Hope, Fear, or Reluctance; and on the 9th of *January* he apply'd his Remedies to her, which only hasten'd her Death.

The same Day, in the Palace-Royal, a Marriage was perform'd between *Artigni*, one of the Maids of Honour to Madame, and the Count *de Ruole*: She was a Confident of the King's, and Mademoiselle *de la Valiere* and the King gave her a considerable Sum of Money, and conferr'd great Favours on the Bridegroom. According to the false Maxims of the World, she had reason to think herself happy in having been the Depositary of the King's Secrets, since from a poor and abject Fortune, she became by that means a great Lady.

After the Wedding was over at the Palace-Royal, there was a great Entertainment at the Duke of *Cregui's*, who was the Count *de Ruole's* Kinsman, viz. a Ball, a Comedy, and a great Supper. The Queen, who was all that Night alone with the Queen-Mother, and cou'd not be at any Diversion (as I said before) because of her Mourning, complain'd
heavi-

heavily of this; and what displeas'd her still more was, the Part that *Mademoiselle de la Valiere* had in it; for all the Favours done to her Friend *Artigni* were owing to her. The Queen-Mother, with her usual sweetness, answer'd her, *That she must pardon the Flights of Youth*; but by her manner of speaking, it plainly appear'd to me, that her Tongue and her Heart did not agree.

'Tis not without reason that the Poets feign'd delightful Seats, where their Heroes lay enchanted; that is to say, bereav'd of the Knowledge of their Duty, and subject to the Delusions of Sense; since the Effects of ordinary Passions, shew us plainly, that wise Men have sometimes their Sallies, which deprive them of the Use of their Reason, and keep them from the Exercise of any of those virtuous Acts they are naturally inclin'd to, and of which they have given evident Proofs. I was alone with these two Queens; and as their Conversation upon this great Affair made me uneasy, to divert them both from such dismal Thoughts, and to change the Discourse, I told them that I hop'd it wou'd be our Turn, and that we shou'd have our dancing days too in Spring. What I said was founded on a Prophecy which a certain Friend of mine had told me that Morning, and which I had related to the Queen-Mother. He said to me, that a great Astrologer of our Time was positive, that towards that Season of the Year, she wou'd be cur'd; and that fabulous Prediction made me hope for Wonders from the Remedy of our *Milanese*: but still my Heart misgave me, be-
cause

cause I saw things too contrary to this Prediction, to draw any true Hope from it.

The Day after Mademoiselle de Artigni's Marriage, which was the 10th of January, the Queen-Mother's Fever, which the Day before was pretty moderate, came upon her with a terrible cold Fit, that held her a long while; but for all this fatal Accident, the King and Monsieur were at the Play with the Bride. At Night the Physicians found her Fever mightily inflam'd, and her Pulse being bad, they thought proper to let her blood. The Queen sent immediately for the King; and, as soon as the Play was over, he came to see his Mother just as she was going to be let blood. In this terrible condition she pass'd a cruel Night, the Excess of her Torment made her now and then sigh; and in her Soliloquys to God, I heard her say, *Alas! O Lord, I cry unto thee; but thy Will is that I shou'd suffer!* Ever since she made use of this Milanese, her Martyrdom was increas'd, by the Corruption that came out of her Cancer. This was a Suffering so much against the Grain, that one may say with Truth, that this alone was a very great Affliction to her. One Day, as she was complaining of this Inconvenience, when I was alone with her, she did me the honour to say to me very low, *In this God is willing to chastise me, for having had too much Vanity, and for having too much admir'd the Beauty of my Person.*

On the 15th, they gave the Queen-Mother a Medicine which the Physicians thought did her good; but next Night she was extremely ill,

ill, and her Pain was so great, that she found herself in a manner forc'd to shed Tears, which ran from her Eyes in abundance. Mademoiselle *Beauvois*, who watch'd with her, told me next Day, that this virtuous Princess said to her, *I do not weep; the Tears you see come from my Eyes, are only forc'd out by the Pain; for you know I am not apt to cry.* The Archbishop of *Auch*, seeing the bad condition she was in, appriz'd her of it, and told her plainly what little hopes the Physicians had of her Life: she thank'd him, and was so far from being astonish'd at what he told her, that she seem'd to make light of it.

The Queen-Mother had for some Months confess'd every Day, and her Confessor talk'd with her a long time: she had then one that came from *Spain*; who, 'twas well for her, prov'd to be an honest learned Friar; so that there is reason to believe she was well prepar'd for the great Journey to Eternity, which she was shortly to take; and 'twas that which gave her so much Peace of Mind. Another Night, which was one of the last she liv'd, the same Mademoiselle *de Beauvois* told me, that as some of her Women and she was by her, she said to them, *I know the Condition I am in, I know I can live no longer; and I see very well, by your Looks, that ye all think so as well as I.* And when one of them that were by began to weep, she said to her with a sort of Smile and Banter, *In truth Niel (for that was the Lady's Name) you are very silly; and must not I die? When Death comes, you may*

may then cry; but do not afflict yourself before the time.

On Saturday the 16th, I cou'd not go to the *Louvre*; and as I often sent to know how the Queen-Mother did, they always brought me word that she was worse. Next Day, being Sunday in the Morning, I found her very ill, and the whole Court in a Consternation: as soon as Monsieur saw me, he did me the honour to say to me, *What were you doing yesterday, that you were not here? we had a terrible Day of it.* I spoke to the Milan Doctor, I found he had nothing to say, and the Physicians were without hopes. The St. Anthony's Fire came out afresh; but it did but just appear, and had no other Effect than swelling her Arms, Hands and Throat; and besides these bad Circumstances, she had a weak and disorderly Pulse.

The Grief I was in to see the Queen-Mother in such a Condition, made me go out from her Presence, to find a Place where I might vent my Sorrow. I went to Mass at the *Jacobin's*, in the Street St. *Honore*: There it was I found what it is to lose what one loves; but having recover'd Strength there, by that Submission which every Christian Soul owes to the divine Will, I return'd to the *Louvre*; for Sorrow and Uneasiness naturally lead us to shift Places. When I went into the Chamber of this great Queen, I found Monsieur alone with her, sitting at the Bed's-head; she was in one of her favourable Intervals of Ease, and was something better than in the Morning, because she had been
dozing.

dozing some Moments: but I saw by her Eyes that her Pain was still excessive; and altho she said nothing, I cou'd tell what she suffer'd. I kneel'd down before her Bed, and as I reach'd to feel her Pulse, she did me the honour to say to me these very words, *Madame de Motteville, I suffer a great deal, there is no part of my Body in which I do not feel great Pains*: Then lifting up her Eyes to Heaven, she said, *God will have it so; yes, my God, thou wilt have it so, and so will I too with all my Heart; yea, my God, with my whole Heart*. Monsieur, touch'd to the quick with these admirable words, began to weep; and as the Tears came into my Eyes, I withdrew without being able to answer her. God was in her Heart, and gave her all the Piety and Patience she wanted: The Reasoning of created Beings cou'd not add any thing to it, and all that had the honour to be about her had nothing to do but to stand and admire her; but lest that Admiration shou'd be dangerous to her Perfection, it was the best way to say nothing, and thank God for the Grace that he had given her.

After these Marks of her Virtue, Submission, and Patience, this admirable Princess gave us a Proof of the Strength of her Mind; for as the Queen came in and sat down by her, and Monsieur drew near again, the *Spanish* Ambassador came in that Moment with some Letters to the Queen, and brought one from the Queen of *Spain*, written to the Queen-Mother her Aunt, and her Sister-in-Law both. She took it, and desir'd the Queen to read it aloud,

aloud, which she did: It was a kind Letter, pretty long, and full of good Sense. Monsieur being willing to inform himself in great Matters, ask'd the *Spanish* Ambassador several Questions about the Affairs of that Kingdom, and about the Government of the Queen-Regent. The Ambassador being naturally a great Talker, spun out the Conversation with a Multitude of useless words, which made it very tedious. The Queen-Mother, tho' she was in the Agonies of Death, attended to the whole Discourse with as great a Presence of Mind as if she had been in good health: Then she took the Letter and put it under her Head, telling the Queen, who was to answer the Letter in her stead, what she wou'd have her say to the Queen-Regent. All this while, I was more taken up with observing the firmness of this Princess's Mind, which was always even, than in hearing the Arguments about the Court of *Spain*: and those who shall hereafter read these *Memoirs*, will think I had good reason for so doing. Just at that time *Señora Molina* came to wait on this illustrious Patient, and said to her in *Spanish*, * *Afe, que vuestra Magestad es muy caloradica*: To which she answer'd very calmly, and with a smiling Look, † *T como, Molina, en verdad que tengo muy buena Calentura*. Immediately after this easy Conversation, she had a Fit took her, which was more violent than any. She perceiv'd that she grew worse,

* In good Truth your Majesty looks very ruddy.

† Why, *Molina*, I have a good hot Fever upon me, and

and said so to the Archbishop of *Auch*, who thought so too: but as he did not think her far enough gone as yet, to receive the Holy *Via-ticum*, she resolv'd after Midnight to receive the Sacrament.

At the usual Hour, which was at Ten a-Clock at Night, the Queen-Mother wish'd a good Repose to the Queen, Monsieur, and Madame. The Countess of *Flex* and I took notice that she press'd them to go, more earnestly than she us'd to do. She was indeed more worn out and sunk with her excessive Pain; and as she did not care to have any Witness of her Sufferings, she had a mind to be alone, that she might endure her Affliction with less Constraint. The same Night, as she was going to eat some new-lay'd Eggs, which they brought her, she seem'd to me to be in a very bad way, and at that only Instant of her Life, appear'd to be above sixty Years of Age; for by the swelling of her Arms, Hands and Face, her Body was become so unwieldy, that she cou'd hardly hold up her Head, or lift her Hand to her Mouth: 'twas not possible to see so great a Princess in so low a Condition, without strongly reflecting on the Nothingness of the Creature, and how unavailable all Relief is, when it pleases God to cast down the greatest Persons in the World.

Ever since this last Illness, the Queen-Mother, when the Royal Family was gone, and her Bed-Curtains drawn, us'd to have the Litany of our Saviour's Passion, and several other Prayers said, which were generally read by the Archbishop of *Auch*, or some of her Chaplains;

Chaplains; and then we always retir'd, to see if she could get a little Repose: but instead of that, we heard her all the while making sad moans, which at Night she would sometimes allow herself to do; because she was then alone, and in no danger to give any one Disturbance.

After midnight, her Grand Almoner said Mass to her, in the Oratory that was by her Bed-side; he gave her the Communion likewise, and I observ'd that she receiv'd our Lord with a Devotion perfectly extraordinary. It seem'd, by the Serenity she was in, as if her Pains and Distemper had left her; for her Application to God was so intense, that 'twas visible her Soul, on these occasions, got the ascendant over her Body. She was attended, next to the Archbishop of *Auch*, by the Bishop of *Mande* her first Chaplain, the Abbat of *Guemadeau*, her Chaplain in ordinary, and some others; by the Countess of *Flex*, her Lady of the Bed-Chamber, and the Duchess of *Noailles*, her Tirewoman. The Silence and Solitude of the Night did not hinder all these Persons from paying, by their due Respect and repeated Reverences, all the Honour that was due to so great a Princess, who was the greatest Woman in the World, both by Birth and Dignity: but all her Grandeur was going to be levell'd, and this august Person, so much esteem'd and reverenc'd, was in spite of all our Wishes to be speedily blotted out of the number of the Living; because God, who is the God of the living and of the dead, wou'd have it so.

On

On *Monday* the eighteenth of *January*, after I had taken a little Rest, I return'd to the *Louvre* betimes in the Morning. The Queen-Mother had suffer'd a great deal since she receiv'd the Communion; and her Fever, and other dangerous circumstances of her Distemper, increased rather than diminish'd. The *Milan* Doctor's Remedy, which was too violent, had eat up the Flesh of the Cancer too soon; and her Spirits being dissipated, Nature had no longer strength to throw out the Humour of the *St. Anthony's Fire*; which got between the Skin and the Flesh to that degree, that her Shoulders began to ulcerate; and as she lay always on her Back, she felt a great Pain there. She desir'd me to touch her Shoulders, which I found all full of Glands; and I wonder'd how she could bear such an augmentation of her Pain without speaking of it. I told the Physicians of it, that they might put something to them; they promis'd me they wou'd, and I went to acquaint the Queen-Mother of it: That pious patient Princess, who humbled herself in the sight of God, with the Meditations of a Christian, and the sole Desire of doing Penance, did me the honour, when she was wholly taken up with God, to make me this Answer; *I have given up my Body to God's Justice, let Men do with it what they will.* As it was decreed that Men shou'd make her suffer, they laid nothing to her Shoulders; and 'tis to be believ'd that God order'd it so to make her the more pure in his sight.

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As the Countess of * *Ille* drew near the Queen-Mother, she told her of the excessive Pains she suffer'd; and speaking to her of the Uneasiness that the offensive Smell which came from her Breast gave her, after a Reflection upon her wretched Condition, fixing her Eyes steadily upon her, and taking hold of her Sheet, she said, † *Ha! Condessa, savanas de Batista; ha! Condessa, savanas de Batista*: By which Words, and shewing her the Sheets, she would have her to understand, that she then upbraided herself for being too over-nice formerly in her Person; who, when in Health, could not bear any Sheets but what were extraordinary fine.

This Lady deriv'd her Descent from a Baltard of one of the last Kings of *Arragon*; her Husband was *Ardenne*, a Native of *Catalonia*, who had rebell'd against his Master the King of *Spain*, and was come over to our King. They were both Persons of Piety, Wit and Merit, and the Queen-Mother had a great value for this Lady.

About ten a Clock in the Morning, the Queen-Mother slept a little; more from being quite tir'd out, than any good Cause: as she awoke, the King came to see her; but he did not stay long, because that moment he was going to Council: but the Queen and Monsieur stay'd, and fell to talk of indifferent

The Archbishop of Arce look'd to her more positively of the Approaches of Death.

* A-Catalan Lady, of great Merit and Parts.

† *Ab, Countess, this fine Linnen; ab, Countess, this fine Linnen.*

Matters, to try to divert her. I was then at the Bed's-foot: That Princess, who to the very last was always full of Care for other People, took the trouble to ask me whether I had din'd, for it was then late; I told her, *No*: whereupon she answer'd me, in that courteous civil manner with which she charm'd all that had the honour to approach her; *You look to day as if you had not a mind for any; but go, go and dine with Molina*: intimating by these Words, that she perceiv'd the Condition she was in, made me not consider my own Wants. These were some of the last Words she did me the honour to speak to me; for after that time her approaching Death forc'd her to forget those whom she honour'd with her Good-will, and to apply herself wholly to the Thoughts of Eternity, and of her Royal Family. She saw herself now very near that terrible Moment, which was to separate her for ever from the Earth: she desir'd, no doubt, to go and enjoy that Rest which will never have an End; but before she cou'd be possess'd of it, there was a necessity for her corruptible Part to be dissolv'd; and this Passage, so frightful to every body, and which, for all her Constancy, seem'd so to her, was an Affair great enough to engross all her Thoughts. About three a-Clock in the Afternoon her Fit return'd, and the Physicians found she grew worse. The Archbishop of *Auch* spoke to her then more positively of the Approaches of Death, which she receiv'd as usual, for she had been a long while accusom'd to the Sentence: He advis'd her to make a Review of her

her whole Life, and to divide it into three Parts; from her Infancy to her Marriage, from her Marriage to her Regency, and from her Regency to that very Hour. She took his advice, and immediately set herself about it: After she had been sometime meditating, she order'd her Confessor to be call'd; and making him sit down by her, she began a Conversation with him, which seem'd more like a slight Review than a general Confession, with such application of Mind as an Action of that nature requir'd; for she permitted some few Persons to stay in the Room, of which number I had the honour to be one.

At ten a-Clock at Night, the King, Queen, Monsieur and Madame, after they had sup'd, came, as usual, into her Chamber, but she press'd them earnestly to leave her and go away; the King, in obedience to her, retir'd, and the Queen went up into her Chamber; the Queen-Mother supposing that Monsieur wou'd not leave her, order'd him positively to go to his own Apartment: he would fain have declin'd the Command, and tho he made as if he obey'd her, he hid himself in the Bathing Room; but the Queen his Mother foreseeing he would make that shift, for which however he was to be commended, call'd him back and told him, that she would absolutely have it so: Therefore he was forc'd to appear no more in her sight, and sat almost all the Night at the Feet of his Bed. I had the honour to keep him company, and to sympathize in his Grief; which was increas'd upon account of an ugly Cough that was come upon

the Queen-Mother, whereby it was judg'd that the Humour of the Gander was fallen upon her Lungs; and that it was a certain Sign of the Misfortune which was just going to befall the Royal Family and all France. At Midnight her Fit seem'd to be abated, and Monsieur went away, to let the Ladies who sat up with the Queen his Mother have a little Rest. He did me the honour to take me with him to the Palace Royal, where I then lay, and where I am sure he had but a bad Night, for he seem'd to be as much afflicted as he could well be.

The next Day, which was *Tuesday, January 19*, the ill Circumstances that seem'd to threaten us with the loss of our illustrious Princess, grew worse and worse. But such was her Nideness, which, notwithstanding the loathsomeness of her Distemper, never left her, that she desir'd towards the Evening to have her Bed made: She was obey'd, but it was with great difficulty; for she was very weak and very unwieldy. As soon as she was put to bed again, her Physicians, who found her Pulse was bad, and her Strength quite gone, told the King that he ought to let her receive the Holy *Viaticum*: it was then about five or six a-Clock at Night; and tho she never discover'd any dread of Death, it was thought proper to dress her, before they spoke to her of her Condition. For some Days past when they were dressing her, they were forc'd to hold sweet Baggs under her Nose, to overpower the noisom Stench that came from her Sore. It was not offensive to her before, be-

cause

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cause the other Remedies she made use of, hinder'd its putrefying; and even then, such was the quantity of Perfumes upon her Bed, that those who came near her were not annoy'd: but now, in this last Dressing, as I observ'd, every time she was forc'd to hold her Nose, she had some new Sacrifice to offer unto God; and then looking on her Hand, which was a little swell'd, she shook her Head, and said to herself very low, *My Hand is swell'd; well, 'tis time to be going.* All her Ailments and Sufferings had not diminish'd the beauty of her Arms and Hands, which never look'd better than in these last Days of her Sicknes: her Distemper had made them a little leaner indeed, but the Swelling which the St. *Anthony's* Fire left behind it, had plump'd them to perfection; and they look'd more like Hands and Arms of Atabaster than Flesh: but that which Time could not impair, was now going to be destroy'd by that which puts an end to Time itself.

The Archbishop of *Auch*, to whom the Queen-Mother had committed the Care of the most important Affair of her Life, which was to assist her in a good Conclusion of it, came and told her, that now she had no more time to lose, and that 'twas necessary to think of receiving her last Sacraments. At that very moment I was not near this great Princess, my Grief often forc'd me to separate from her; and this Discourse, notifying the sad approach of Death, made me retire into a Corner of the Room: those who were nearer her, told me, that her Voice then chang'd,

and that notwithstanding her usual Courage, she could not help being affected with that natural Horror, which makes all Men shrink at the Prospect of their Dissolution: Had it really been so I shou'd not have wonder'd, there having been scarce a Hero or Philosopher, or Saint, who has not found it a bitter Pill. But as for my own part, I can say with Truth, that when I return'd to her, which was very soon after, I perceiv'd no Alteration in her; and that if Nature had for some Moments forc'd her to start at the Thoughts of leaving this Life, her Reason and the strength of her Mind soon overcame such Sentiments; for from that Instant I saw no Sign of Fear or Sadness in her. She had no such tender Concern for Life, and discover'd no Weakness either in her Words or Actions: God had given her a Resolution, which in all the great Occasions wherein she had Misfortunes and Enemies to contend with, never left her; and he wou'd not deprive her of it in her last Hours, wherein we have reason to believe, that the Hand of the Most High, which was always at her assistance, supported and strengthen'd her.

The Queen-Mother had then a mind to speak with the King, and made every one withdraw: She wanted likewise to speak with the Queen; and afterwards with both of them together. 'Tis very probable that on this occasion, she wish'd them all Joy and Happiness in their Marriage together, with the Fear of God, and his Blessings in abundance. The Words of this valuable Mother were no doubt receiv'd by the King, with the
sincere

sincere Heart of a Son full of Respect and Gratitude; and if we may be allow'd to enter into their Thoughts, there is reason to believe, that all the good Effects which so laudable and virtuous a Love is capable of producing in this Royal Pair, will not fail to be accompany'd with celestial Grace. This admirable Mother had a desire likewise to speak to Monsieur; and one may also imagine that she gave him wholesom Advice for the time to come, necessary for his Salvation, agreeable to the Greatness of his Birth, and conducive to his Repose; to the end that he might lead a Life truly Christian, esteem'd by the Publick, and agreeable to the King.

After all these things were done, there was nothing more to be thought on, but to give the Queen-Mother the Holy *Viaticum*; the King and Queen, Monsieur and Madame, went to meet the Holy Sacrament; and Mademoiselle, eldest Daughter to the late Duke of Orleans, M. the Prince, M. the Duke, and Madame de Carignan follow'd them, with the whole Court: The Men attended the King as far as the Parish Church, and the Ladies the Queen as far as the *Louvre* Gate.

The Archbishop of *Auch* brought our Lord, attended with the Bishop of *Mande*, the Curate of *St. Germain*s, the Abbat of *Guemadieu*, and some other Chaplains; the Archbishop holding the Host in his Hand, made a very christian Exhortation to the Queen: He shew'd her the necessity of humbling herself before God, represented the unprofitableness of all the things we most esteem in this World,

and told her, that tho she was the Daughter of so many Kings and Emperors, the Mother, Aunt, and Sister of the most powerful Princes upon Earth; yet she was to consider that she was going to be laid as low as the meanest Creature, that all her Grandeur would avail her nothing any longer, and that Repentance for her Sins, her Penance and her Humility, were the only things which would be profitable and wholesom for her in that terrible Moment; and that she was now going to appear before God, to be judg'd according to her Works, where the divine Mercy would be her only Riches. She heard this Discourse with great recollection of Thought, and communicated with a Devotion, suitable to the sentiments of Piety she had entertain'd all her Life long.

Her earnestness in so sacred and important an Action, and the heat of her Fever made her Eyes sparkle, and put such a colour in her Face, that at that instant she appear'd so handsom to all who saw her, and particularly to the King who was standing at the Bed's-foot, that he turn'd to *Mademoiselle de Beauvais*, who stood by him and was assisting in the Service, and said with a whisper, *See the Queen my Mother, I never saw her look so well.* After this wonderful Princess had spent some time in returning thanks to God, adoring him, and meditating on Eternity, she made her illustrious Children come near her, and gave them her Blessing, begging of God to bless them likewise: She gave a Blessing to the Queen in particular, for the *Dauphine*
her

her Grandson, and one to Monsieur for his two other Children. She spoke nothing in particular to Madame, believing, as we supposed, that the Notions of that young Princess were so firmly rivetted in her Heart, that it was impossible for her to change them. These four Royal Persons kneeled down at the Bed-side of the Queen their Mother, kiss her Hand, and wept: but as I propose to tell the naked truth, I thought they did not cry so much as they did the time before, when they were in danger of losing her at St. Germain; at least, they did not cry enough. 'Tis the nature of Time to make every thing familiar to us, and the Condition she was in, no doubt, abated their Sorrow; for since her Illness cou'd not end but with her Life, to take some comfort in seeing an end put to her Misery by Death, was an Indication of Love to her.

All that were in the Chamber wept likewise; but she, who deserv'd so much to be lamented, did not seem mov'd at any thing she saw, but continued in a grave sedate Temper, that had something in it very beautiful. The Mind of this great Princess was wholly taken up with thoughts on God; who ruling in her by Faith, hinder'd her from being sensible of the Loss of Life. The King was then standing over against her, and crying: a while after she had recollected herself, she fixt her Eyes steddily upon him, and with the Majesty of a Queen, and the Authority of a Mother, said, *Do what I have bid you; I speak it to you again, with the Holy Sacra-*

ment upon my Tongue. The King making his obeysance with a profound Respect, and with Tears in his Eyes, assur'd her that he would not fail to do it; but what it was is unknown to this hour. M. the Prince, who stood next me, leaning against the Balluster of the Bed, turn'd towards me, and did me the honour to say to me in a rapturous Exclamation, much to the Honour and Glory of that virtuous Queen's Memory, *I never saw any thing so fine; This is a Woman whose Merit is worthy of eternal Esteem.* The Confessor of this wonderful Princess, told *Molina* and me soon after, that while he was that Day with the King and her, he heard her desiring him to pardon those that he hated for her sake, who were Persons that were concern'd in *Fouquet's* Disgrace, and whom she made use of with him while he was Superintendant. I always thought too, that a certain Person of Quality, who had been so unjust as to make satirical Verses, wherein she herself was pointed at, was one of those whom she desir'd the King to pardon; for I know that she had spoke to him about that Person formerly, but could not obtain the Favour: and as the Queen did a commendable Action in desiring it, the King, I think, deserv'd no less to be esteem'd for refusing it; and perhaps that was the Subject of the last Request made to the King by his illustrious Mother: But of this I am not sure.

When all this was done, the Queen had the Bed-Curtains drawn, to recover herself, and to think, no doubt, upon what she was going

going to do, and what was coming upon her. Monsieur, who must be excepted out of the number of those who wept not enough, thought fit to go and open the Curtains, and said, *Madam, You have lov'd me so tenderly here below, love me also when you are above in Heaven, and pray to God for me.* The Queen, who was turn'd to the other side, hearing what he said, and thinking that this hot fit of Devotion and Affection was not at that time seasonable, said no more to him than, *My Son, I beg you let me be quiet.*

After she had continu'd thus about a quarter of an Hour, she had the Curtains open'd, and calling her Physician she held out her Arm to him, and said, *M. Seguin, feel my Pulse; methinks I grow very weak:* and as he felt it, she still said to him, *Is it not true? is it not very low?* When he answer'd her, *Yes, Madame;* this Princess, who was constant and courageous to her last Moments, reply'd with the very same tone of Voice and tranquillity of Mind, as if she had been speaking of a thing indifferent, or of no great consequence, and said, *I am very sensible that it must be so:* This she repeated twice, and knowing that her Pulse decay'd every Hour, she said to the Archbishop of Auch, very earnestly, *Ab! my God, let me not die without Extreme Unction, let some body go and fetch it quickly;* and when he told her that she need not be uneasy about that, she persisted that some body should go for it; till they inform'd her that it was ready upon the Altar in her Oratory; and in short, they were oblig'd

oblig'd to give it her very soon, because it was visible she was very much weaken'd. She receiv'd it with great signs of Devotion, and with the same knowledg and tranquillity of Mind as if she had been in perfect health, and about any other Action: It was her Curate that administer'd this Sacrament to her; and as he was putting the Holy Oil upon her Lips, she felt some of it go into her Mouth; then she open'd her Eyes, so beautiful and so sweet, those Eyes which in this fatal Moment had not yet quite lost their natural Lustre, and looking upon him, she said to him very softly, *I beg of you let me wipe my Mouth*: and when he would have done it with Cotton, she said, *I beg you, if it be possible, let me do it*; and taking the Cotton in her right Hand, she wip'd it; and then opening her Hand, and holding it out to the Curate, she said, *This Hand has not had it*. When her first Bedchamber-Woman was uncovering her Feet, her Modesty made her afraid lest she shou'd shew her Legs, and therefore she gave her a Signal to let fall the Coverlet, and hunch'd her on the Arm to make her do as she wou'd have her.

After the Queen-Mother had receiv'd this last Sacrament, she lay and rested herself a little, and her Eyes began by degrees to be clouded with the cold and gloomy Vapours of Death; but hearing the King speak just by her, she open'd them, and looking upon him with Joy to see him again, in a kind of surprize full of tenderness and transport, she said, *Hah! there's the King*; and after she had

had view'd him some Moments, with an Attention which seem'd to proceed from her Heart, and from a Soul touch'd with natural Affection, which had awak'd her from the fatal Slumber into which she was falling, she said, *Go, my Son, go to Supper.* When the Queen came up also to this Princess, she look'd upon her, as I thought, very tenderly: but having now a desire to separate from the whole Royal Family which she lov'd so much, she said to her in a Tone that made me guess what she meant, *Hija mia, vayasse, i. e. Daughter go away.* Without doubt she thought, at that Instant, how much that young Princess would lose by her Death, in being depriv'd of her wise Counsels, and surrounded with a Set of People, that were incapable to conduct her in the ways of that Sorrow and Uneasiness which the King's Passions were going to bring her into; when it would be difficult for her to perform her Duty to God, and to preserve her own Honour, without failing in her Submission and due Complaisance to the King: without all doubt she had her begone, because these sentiments might give her Pain, and take up too much of her Thoughts, and because in her present Condition she was unwilling to think of those that were dear to her any more; her Heart, however, forc'd her to this short return, but 'twas the last time.

The Queen had always been very much devoted to the Queen-Mother; she had shew'd her great Respect, and was no doubt persuaded, that in her she lost a great deal of Comfort;

fort ; but the Desire of Preeminence had apparently taken possession of her Mind : A malicious She-Flatterer, to insinuate herself into her Confidence, had buoy'd her up with Notions of the Esteem she wou'd be in, and told her, that the Homage of all People, being no longer divided, would totally center in her. Whether it was that this Notion diminish'd the tenderness she had till then express'd for the Queen her Mother, or that the tedious Illness of this dying Princess had as it were familiariz'd her to her Death ; the truth was, she seem'd not then to have so much Sorrow for her as she once had Love : 'Twas told me, in the last Moments of the Queen-Mother's Life, that some such flattering Speeches as these had been made to this young Princess, by a Lady very intimate with her : but I had reason to believe afterwards, that her Advice had not that favourable reception as to persuade her ; for, a Year after the Queen-Mother's Death, when I went to pay my Duty to the Queen, one Day as she was getting up, and I kneel'd down at her Bed to kiss her Hand, she was touch'd at the sight of me with a tender thought that gave her no small Grief ; she put her Arms round my Neck, and leaning her Head upon my Face, shed a torrent of Tears, which wet my Cheek, and gave me a certain proof of the Fidelity of her Heart to that illustrious Aunt, who had always so dearly lov'd her : As to the King, his Reason, and the Conviction of his own Judgment, oblig'd him to have a great regard for the Counsels of the Queen

his

his Mother; but perhaps being not able to pursue them, they began to give him some Perplexity: for he lov'd and honour'd her much, and knowing the Weakness of his own Heart, the many Combats he had to sustain, undoubtedly made him uneasy; and in this Condition there is reason to believe, that the Strength of his Love to the Queen his Mother decay'd insensibly, whether he wou'd or no. This is enough to humble all Mankind, and to comfort us for the little value which on several Occasions of our Life Men may have for us; and for the small Regret that our Friends, and perhaps our nearest Relations may have for our Death. No one shou'd think himself necessary in the World, when she was not so to her Children; she who had always been so obsequious to the King, the Queen, Monsieur, and Madame; that is to say, when she was persuaded that her Complaisance was not contrary to her Duty. The Count *de las Fuentes*, Ambassador from *Spain* (to shew her the difference between the Queen and Madame) was wont to tell her, that the one was her Daughter, and the other a true Daughter-in-Law: but at her Death, it must be own'd, that she who had a Place in her Heart, as if she had been her true Daughter, tho' she was no more than her Niece, did a little too much resemble the Daughter-in-Law.

But to return to our dying Princess, after she had given the last Tokens of her tenderness to the King and Queen, she began to sink away, and her Breast began to heave. She found that the time of her Death drew near,

near, and calling *Seguin* her Physician, ask'd him whether the Cough she had was not the Death-Rattle; and as he retir'd without answering any thing, she perceiv'd his meaning by his Silence. She lay very quiet, and after that one might see Nature decay in her by degrees, her Strength diminish, her Life end, and her Eyes then began to close for ever to all the things of this World.

The King and Queen were in the Chamber of the Queen their Mother till very near Midnight, leaning against a Silver Table that stood in that place without the Balluster of her Bed. The King look'd with Silence, and saw her who had given Life to him, calmly losing her own; and this dismal Object, at so terrible a time, gave him a sensible Proof, *That the Life of Man is but like a Vapour that riseth from the Ground, and then vanisheth in a Moment.* While this great Prince was probably meditating of this, he saw his Mother droop all on a sudden, and her Head fall towards the left side. This occasion'd a great Cry about the Bed; for many that were there, and saw this Convulsion, thought she had been giving up the Ghost; but the Cry awak'd her again. She open'd her Eyes, which even in this languishing State seem'd still beautiful; she look'd at us too with such an Air of sweetness, as if she wou'd have told us, if she cou'd, for our Comfort, *I am still alive.* After she had recover'd her Strength a little, she sat herself half up in the Bed, according to her ordinary Posture, leaning her Head upon some little Pillows. In this manner she discover'd a Gravity
and

and Peace of Mind, which shew'd us plainly, that after she had perform'd all the Actions of an humble Christian and true Penitent, she purpos'd to die with the Majesty of a Queen, and courageously sustain the fatal Agonies of Death. At the Noise that was made about the Queen-Mother, when she fell as it were into a Swoon, the King ran thither, and at the Sight of her Condition, suffer'd all that one cou'd imagine from the Tye of Nature, and the Goodness of his Heart. All the Love that he had for her in his Youth, when Love most discovers itself, all that solid and true Esteem he retain'd for her still, and all the Sorrow which Consanguinity and natural Affection cou'd produce, this great Prince suffer'd. What Time, and the different Passions of the Heart of Man had stifled in him, did not hinder the Effects of an extraordinary tenderness. He turn'd pale at the Sight of his precious Mother, whom he saw as it were dying before his Eyes: his Legs fail'd him, and they were feign to hold him up for fear he shou'd fall. The truth is, he was ty'd to her by very strong Bands, by a long Course of Intimacy and Confidence, which Persons of their Rank are little accusom'd either to know or practise; therefore the Loss of such is harder to be born, by those who have enjoy'd a Happiness so rare. I heard, at that Instant, a great Noise not far from me, I being then upon the Ground in a Corner of the Room, just by the dying Queen's Bed; but I was so overcome with the Thoughts of what I beheld in her,

that

that I took no notice of what happen'd to her illustrious Son. I only perceiv'd that there was a Bustle about him, and that many People ran to help him. This Prince's Grief was just and praise-worthy, and the Concern I have for his Honour, made me not troubled to see him in that Condition. They forc'd him at last to withdraw, and carry'd him into the Bathing-Room, where they were oblig'd to throw Water in his Face; and this was the last time that he saw this wonderful Mother, who had so dearly lov'd him.

After this Accident, the Queen-Mother fell into an Agony, which was very long and painful, but profitable, without doubt, to her that endur'd it, who was offering continual Sacrifices to God while it was upon her. She did Acts of Contrition, Faith, and Love, every Moment, with an incredible Application to the care of her Salvation. The Archbishop of *Auch* spoke frequently to her, and repeated good things to her out of the Psalms, and other Portions of Scripture, which agreed with the State she was in; and as the Understanding of this pious Princess was still perfect, she answer'd with such Submission to the Will of God, and such Demonstrations of Faith and Humility, as inspir'd all that were Spectators of so Christian a Death with Devotion; and the Archbishop, in admiration of her pious Sentiments, turn'd round to us and said, *This is marvellous! She desires to suffer more, that she may have more to offer to God!* At another time he told her, that she shou'd by a publick Acknow-

Acknowledgment of the divine Goodness, return God Thanks for the Favours she had receiv'd from him all her Life long: This awaken'd her more than all that he had said to her, and with a mild Exelamation she answer'd him, *Ab! 'tis very true, he has done great things for me:* and then casting her Eyes upon my Lord Montague, who was standing at her Bed's-foot just against her, and crying bitterly; *My Lord Montague, said she, that stands there, knows very well what I owe to God, what Favours he hath done for me, and the great Mercies for which I am oblig'd to him.* All that heard these words did not comprehend the meaning of them: that *English Lord*, who was then a Priest, and a very devout Man, had in his Youth been acquainted with all the foolish Adorations which Men in those days paid to the Beauty of this Princess: He was not ignorant of the Pleasures which Self-flattery made her take in those Vanities; he knew likewise that God, who shew'd her the Danger of this, gave her the Grace likewise to fear it; and having entirely preserv'd her from it, his divine Providence, which is always wonderful in its Effects, order'd it so, that at this Instant, when all her words were words of Truth, her humble and sincere Acknowledgment of his Mercies might be a certain and publick Testimony of the Purity of her Life, and of the Assistance she had receiv'd from Heaven, to make her Virtue triumphant over humane Frailty. " Yes, mighty Queen, " you, by these words, which were in a man-
ner

“ner the last you spoke distinctly, have left
 “us to guess at the Diffidence you have had
 “of your self, the firm Resistance you have
 “made against Vanity, the Graces you have
 “requested of God to enable you to conquer
 “in this Conflict; what you have receiv’d
 “from his Bounty, and how he has made
 “them victorious in your Soul, giving you
 “Strength to surmount all the Obstacles
 “which hinder’d your Salvation, and to a-
 “void every thing that might displease him,
 “or tarnish your own Glory.” My Lord
Montague confirm’d me in the Explanation I
 made of these words, and told me after-
 wards that the Testimony she gave of herself
 had been a great Consolation to him, and that
 he never knew a Woman whose Heart was so
 pure, or whose Intentions were so honest and
 upright.

After this humble and glorious Declaration,
 this virtuous Queen held out her Arm to her
 Physician, and said, *There is no more Pulse.*
Monfieur, who was upon his Knees at her Bed-
 side, shew’d by his Sighs and Tears that the
 Sorrow of his Heart still continu’d without Di-
 minution: she felt him touch her, and know-
 ing it was he, said to him in a very tender
 manner, *My Son*; and some Moments after,
 perceiving that her Arms lay uncover’d, she
 call’d him, and said only, *My Son, cover my*
Arms. The next Moment she open’d her
 dying Eyes, and looking upon her Confessor,
 said to him, * *Padre mio, yo me muero*; and

* Father, I’m dying.

after these words, her Agony came so strong and violent upon her, that as she perceiv'd her Illness increase, and her Strengths decay, the Aversion which Nature has to Pain made her, with much ado, say to the Archbishop, *I suffer a great deal, shall not I die soon?* The Archbishop telling her, that she should not be too impatient for Death; and that she must suffer as long as God had appointed her; she presently acquiesc'd, and did repeated Acts of Submission to the Divine Will. She had a small Convulsion soon after, which made us believe she was going off the Stage; but she came again, tho from that time she lost her Speech, and the last words, which with much Difficulty she pronounc'd, were when she call'd for the Cross. Then they order'd the Mass as usual for Persons in the Agonies of Death, to be said in her Oratory, for it was past Midnight, and the Common Prayers were laid. The Princess was sensible to the very last, and perfectly understood what was said to her, as she gave her Confessor to know by a Sign she had given him; and which was agreed upon before she was at the Point of Death. So particular an Application of her Mind, to devote the last Moments of her Life to God without Intermission, edify'd all that were eye-Witnesses of it, and we had great reason to admire so Christian an Exit. To see this pious Princess suffer, act and die, it made Death look in a manner beautiful and agreeable; for of all her sufferings she made so willing and easy a Sacrifice to God, that one wou'd have thought she

she did not feel what others do in that Condition. One may say, in short, that she had already tasted and seen how full of Goodness and Sweetness God is to all that love him.

The King, who had found by his own Experience, how the sight of such a melancholy Object as that of a Mother's dying, wou'd affect those that were to be depriv'd of her for ever, sent twice to Monsieur to desire him to retire from the place from whence his Sorrow had drove him: but Monsieur, by a contrary effect, proceeding from the same Cause, having not the Heart to leave the illustrious Person who was so dear to him, sent him word that he cou'd not obey him; but he promis'd him, that shou'd be the only thing wherein he wou'd disobey him all his Life long; then casting his Eyes upon her, whom he lamented so bitterly, and observing the Condition she was in, he turn'd to me, who had the honour to attend him, and with a Cry that proceeded from his Heart, said, *Ah! Madame Motteville, is that the Queen my Mother?* The Archbishop of Auch, as he was repeating some Psalms on his Knees at the Bed-side of this great Princess, who was now as it were no more, came to that Verse, where it is said, *Nolite considerare in Principibus*, i. e. *Put not your Trust in Princes*; and then looking stedfastly on her, he said, *Alas, this is but too true*: and shewing us in our present Loss the Vanity of the Grandeur of the great Men of this World, he oblig'd us to think that he only is happy, who
seeks

seeks for Succour from the God of Jacob, and whose only Hope is in the Lord, that hath made Heaven and Earth. While we were thus meditating over this dread Object, upon our common Misery, and bewailing our dear and admirable Princess, we saw her leave this World with Ease, where she had reign'd with so much Glory, and pass from this Life into Immortality, there to appear before her just Judge; where, no doubt, she has found in his Mercy the Pardon of her Sins, the Reward of her Virtue, and the end of her Sufferings. This happen'd on *Wednesday* the 20th of *January* 1666. between four and five in the Morning.

After this sad and terrible Moment, was pass'd, Monsieur embrac'd her tenderly; the Tears he shed testify'd his Sorrow and Affliction, and very good reason he had for it, because he lost in her that he lamented, a Friend, a Mother, a Confident, and one, in short, that never was at a loss to alleviate all his Troubles. Soon after this, he went to his House at *St. Clou*, there to pass the first days of his Sorrow. The King sent thither for him to come and hear their Mother's Will read, and to take a Key of her Jewels: Monsieur sent back word that he desir'd to be excus'd; that he might do whatever he pleas'd, and that whatever he order'd wou'd always be well done and agreeable to him, he himself being so full of Grief that he cou'd do nothing.

The

The King, who was the proper Person to order all things, stay'd no longer than the time that was necessary to discharge his Duty. He sent to demand the late Queen's Will of *Mademoiselle de Beauvais*, who had the honour to have it left in her Custody: She gave it to *M. le Tellier*, who read it, to the King and Queen, and when he came to the Article that concern'd me, the King said, *That is done already.* 'Tis true, that great Queen had the Goodness to pay me while she was alive, the ten thousand Crowns, which she left me by her Will; she gave the same Sum to the Countess of *Flex*, her Lady of Honour, to the Duchess of *Senecy*, Mother to the Countess of *Flex*, and to *Mad. de Brégis*: She left likewise to the Duchess of *Nonilles*, her Tire-woman, who had not been long in her Service, fifteen thousand Livres. The King order'd what he pleas'd about the Jewels, he caus'd the Ornaments to be taken down in his Mother's Chamber, and then went to *Versailles*, leaving the Countess of *Flex* and the Duchess of *Nonilles* to pay the due Honours to the Deceased.

I had it from People who lay in the King's Chamber, that he cry'd in Bed almost all Night; and next Day, as he was speaking to the Duchess of *Montausier* about the Queen his Mother, he told her (as she related it to me) that he had the Comfort to think he had never offended her in any Matter of Consequence; and continuing to speak of that Princess's good Qualities, *The Queen his Mother*,
 added

added he, *was not only a great Queen, but* *deserv'd to be rank'd amongst the greatest* *Kings;* a Commendation, of which she for whom it was made was truly worthy; and it was worthy of him that gave it her. After her Death, there were found in her Cabinet two thousand Pistoles, which the King had given her not long before, and which by her Order were distributed to the Poor.

Having thus wrote the Life and Death of this incomparable Princess, I think myself concern'd to finish this Account of her Virtues, with what she did me the honour once to say to me about the Subject of these Memoirs. I told her one Day, in the time of her Health, that I was writing something about her, and design'd with the Grace of God to continue it. She answer'd me in a very modest and humble manner, that I was very silly to employ myself in any such Business as that; that she confided in me to say what I pleas'd; but the only thing she fear'd, was, that I wou'd give her too much Praise; and that the Love I had for her wou'd hinder me from seeing her Faults, and publishing them. And as I saw that she was really uneasy thereupon, I was oblig'd to promise her seriously, that I wou'd speak the Truth as well against her, as for her; and indeed it was necessary for me to do so, in order to gain Credit with Men who naturally love Truth. I told her farther, that as no body was exempt from Failings, an History wou'd not please unless it contain'd both the good and bad, and took notice of Peoples Faults as well as their good Actions; and told her likewise, that such was my Temper and

Sentiments of things, that I cou'd not do otherwise. That wise Princess shew'd me, that she was satisfy'd and well pleas'd, with my Answer; and from that time, never express'd a Curiosity to know or see what I wrote about her: I never indeed knew, in my Life, a Person less desirous of Glory and Applause. She made no ostentation of her good Qualities, seldom spoke of herself, or of her own Opinions; and one was oblig'd to draw out her Thoughts by the Power of Actions which sometimes made her speak: Her Humility was the Cause that the beauty of her Mind, and the goodness of her Judgment made not that Noise, and had not that Esteem which they deserv'd from the Publick. If she had taken more Pains to display the Greatness of them, she had got more Praise in her Life-time; but then one cou'd not with Truth have apply'd to her that Verse in the 45th Psalm, which was the Text of one of the best Funeral Orations that was made for her after her Death; *The King's Daughter is all glorious within.*

The Bishop of Cominges, of the House of *Choiseul*, one of the most famous Bishops in our time, and the most esteem'd, made this Funeral Song upon *Anne of Austria*, Queen-Mother to the King, when they interr'd her, and threw the Ensigns of her Royalty into her Tomb.

*Superbes Ornaments d'une Grandeur passie,
Vous voila descendus du Trône au Monument,
Que reste t-il de vous, dans ce grande Changement,
Qu'un triste Souvenir d'une Gloire effacée?
Mortels, dont la Fortune est toujours balancée*

Et

Et qui des Ris aux Pleurs passez en un moment.
Si vous voulez sortir de votre Egarement,
Que ce terrible Objet frappe votre Pensee :
Anne vivoit hier, et cette Majesté
Qui regnoit sur les Cœurs par sa rare bonté,
Dans ces Autres sacrez n'est plus qu'un peu

(de Poudre.
Orateurs, taisez vous, cette Foule de Rois
Qui sont ici comme elle, et sans force, et sans voix,
Font moins de bruit que vous, mais se sent mieux
Translated thus : (entendre.

Ensigns of State, proud Ornaments of Glory,
Which from the Throne into the Grave are
Cast :
What now remains of all your boasted Story,

But sad Reflections on a Name that's past :
Mortals, with whom Dame Fortune makes her
(Sport;

On whom she smiles, and in a moment frowns;
The sickle Deity no longer court,
And here take warning by the Fate of Crowns.

(Eyes,
Anne, whose uncommon Goodness charm'd our
And who both liv'd and reign'd the other day,

Now in these sacred Haunts inglorious lies,
Mix'd with the Dust, and turn'd to common
(Clay.

Cease Orators ; this Croud of ancient Kings,
That like her, breathless, speechless, here re
Shewing the Vanity of earthly Things, (view,

Make much less Noise, yet are more heard
(than you.

What follows, is the Elogy which Mr. Peti-
son made upon this Princess, containing in a
few Lines all the great Passages of her Life.
Those who are good Judges of the Perfection

of this Composition, admire to see Truths so well describ'd; and 'twill be some Pleasure to the Curious, to find in it the Dates of her Birth and Marriage, and of the Birth of the King, Monsieur, &c.

' *Anne of Austria, Queen of France*, and
 ' an everlasting Example to all future Queens,
 ' learn'd Piety and all Virtues in her Youth,
 ' and never afterwards forgot them. She was
 ' marry'd in the 15th Year of her Age to a
 ' great King, wise and happy in his Designs;
 ' but never more happy than in his Marriage.
 ' After twenty two Years Marriage, she, contrary to all expectation, obtain'd by her
 ' Prayers and good Works the greatest Present
 ' that Heaven cou'd make her, a Son, who
 ' seem'd then, and in the whole Course of his
 ' Life shew'd that he was given by God for the
 ' good of his Subjects, and deserv'd to be sent
 ' into the World by a Miracle. She saw her
 ' Joy compleated by the Birth of a second most
 ' lovely Prince, whom she lov'd tenderly. She
 ' had Experience of the Inconstancy of human
 ' Affairs in a long Administration of the State,
 ' begun with Triumphs over foreign Enemies,
 ' thwarted by Domestick Feuds and Civil Wars,
 ' but concluded with the greatest Conquests,
 ' and an entire Re-establishment of her Authority. Her Conduct made it a doubt which
 ' of these different times were most advantageous to her Glory, and whether her Prudence, Moderation, or Fortitude was most
 ' to be admir'd. She contributed powerfully
 ' to the general Peace, and her Son's Marriage; two great Sources of the publick Felicity: In recompence whereof, she saw Peace
 ' flourish

flourish in the Royal Family, to which England, soon after Spain, added the most illustrious, charming, and beautiful Person they had. The Care, Respect, and Tenderness, as well as Piety and Virtue of a young and excellent Queen, made her, to the end of her Life, own her Happiness both in a Niece and Daughter: A most promising Dauphin gave her Hopes of a long Train of Successors, equal in Grandeur to their Ancestors: The King, her Son, was every Day both a Shade and a Light to their Glory; the Kingdom, which she lov'd so well, and which flourish'd so much under her high and wise Administration, had nothing to fear, not even from her Prosperity. She liv'd always at Court, but altogether with God; being Good, Sincere, Humble, Gentle, Amiable, Just, Liberal, Charitable, Generous, Magnanimous, Grateful, without Excess in any thing but Virtue; Beneficent, forgetful of nothing but the Injuries she receiv'd, which she never reveng'd; and teaching, in short, the whole World, that the worst things in Life may become good to those that receive them as she did. She died with the Tranquillity of Martyrs, a Death not less painful, but more lingering than theirs was, lamented by the whole World; but no where more truly than in this House, whereof she was the Foundress. Her for ever durable Statues, are the Altars and religious Places which she rais'd and supported with her Benefactions; and it was the least of her Honours, that she was descended of the Blood of Emperors, or that she was the Daughter, the

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Sister, the Wife, and Mother of a King.
 All you that are Witnesses of the Grandeur
 which is entomb'd with this incomparable
 Princess, must be convinc'd that there is
 nothing solid besides what she now possesses.
 She was Daughter to Philip III. King of
 Spain, and Margaret of Austria, and born
 at Valladolid on Saturday the 22d of Sep-
 tember 1601. She was nam'd at her Bap-
 tism Anne Maurice, at the same place, on
 Sunday the 7th of Octob. She was afterwards
 marry'd to Lewis XIII. King of France,
 firnam'd the Just, on the 9th of November
 1615; was the Mother of Lewis XIV. fir-
 nam'd Dieu-Donne, i. e. the Gift of God,
 born on the 5th of September 1638. and of
 Philip of France, the present Duke of Or-
 leans, born on the 20th of September 1640.
 and she died the 20th of January 1666.

Not long after the Queen-Mother's Death,
 the famous Mademoiselle Scuderi made these
 Verses in her Praise, which deserve to be
 transmitted to Posterity.

*Anne, dont les vertus, l'Eclat et la Grandeur,
 Ont rempli l'Univers de leur vive Splendeur,
 Dans la Nuit du Tombeau conserve encore sa
 gloire,
 Et la France a jamais aimera sa Memoire.
 Elle sut mépriser les Caprices du sort,
 Regarder sans Horreur les Horreurs de la mort,
 Affermir un grand Trone, et le quitter sans peine;
 Et, pour tout dire enfin, vivre et mourir en*

Translated thus: (Reine:
 Anna, whose Virtues, Merit, and illustrious
 Name;
 Fill'd all the World with her resplendent Fame,
 Shines

of ANNE of AUSTRIA. 343

*Shines in her silent Tomb, while France doth
 Her lasting Monuments of Love and Praise ;
 A mighty Throne, which Faction did annoy,
 How to confirm, she knew, and quit with Joy ;
 Vicissitudes of Fortune to defy,
 Grim Death to see with an undaunted Eye,
 And like a Queen to live, and like a Queen to*
 (die.)

I may add, that to die like a Queen, is no great matter ; and that Anne of Austria, the Queen, whom we all must admire, died a true Christian, desiring nothing but God, whom she perfectly lov'd. I knew her last Sentiments, and her Words were sufficient to persuade us that she always look'd upon her Crown as Dirt.

The Queen-Mother's Last Will and Testament.

IN the Presence of Henry de Guenegaut, and Michael le Tellier, Counsellors, Notaries, and Secretaries to the King, the House, and Crown of France ; Secretaries of State, of his Majesty's Governments and Revenues, and Commanders of his Orders : The underwritten Most High, Most Excellent, Most Pious Princess Anne, by the Grace of God, Queen of France and Navarre, and Mother to the King, being in Bed, sick in Body, at the new Castle of St. Germain en Laie, but nevertheless sound in Mind ; considering how uncertain the hour of Death is, and, in the Condition she is in, having reason to fear her being overtaken with it, before she has explain'd her Intentions about those things she desires to have done after her decease, she does it now

out of her own accord and free will, in the manner following :

IMPRIMIS, Desiring to die, as she has always liv'd, in the Honour and Fear of God, and in such Principles as a good Christian ought to have, she prays God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, that when her Soul shall be separated from her Body, he would be pleas'd to receive it into Heaven among the number of the Faithful.

ITEM, She orders, that her Body shall be carried to the Church of the Abbey of St. Dennis in France, and buried near the late King, of glorious Memory, Louis the Thirteenth, her Lord. After that, her Heart shall be taken out from her Side, without making any other Incision, (for that she expressly forbids) to be carried to the Church and Abbey of Val de Grace, situate in the Suburb of St. James belonging to the City of Paris, and deposited in the Chappel of St. Anne's Church in the said Abbey: her Majesty being willing that her Funeral should be without Ceremony, and that what is sav'd out of the Expence thereof, be employ'd in having Prayers said for the Repose of her Soul.

ITEM, The said Lady the Queen wills and ordains, that immediately after her decease, or as soon as possible, ten thousand Masses be, according to her Intention, celebrated by the Care of the Executors of this her Will.

ITEM, The said Lady the Queen gives and bequeaths to Mademoiselle Mary Louisa of Orleans, her Grand-daughter, the Sum of a Million of Livres, payable as well out of what appertains to her Majesty by her Dowry, and
or her

other Articles stipulated in her Marriage-Contract; as out of the nine hundred thousand Livres that are order'd by the King for her reimbursement of fifty thousand Livres Tournois, and for her reimbursement of the Revenue due upon the Demesnes of Rouen, and the Offices of the Comptrolers and Conservators of the Gabels of Languedoc, acquir'd by her Majesty, and in general out of all her Goods moveable and immoveable.

ITEM, Her Majesty gives and bequeaths out of the Effects mention'd in the former Article, the farther Sum of nine hundred thousand Livres Tournois; that is to say, to the Marchioness of Senecy thirty thousand Livres, to the Countess of Flex thirty thousand Livres, to the Duchess of Noailles fifteen thousand Livres, to Mad. de Bregy thirty thousand Livres, and to Mad. de Monteville thirty thousand Livres; for the prompt payment of which Sum, to be applied to such use only, her Majesty has been pleas'd to dispatch an Order and Certificate. To the Lady Beauvais thirty thousand Livres, to de Niert, Varrenne, du Rocher, Braquemont, Dance, and d'Aubri, her Bedchamber-Women in ordinary, the Sum of ten thousand Livres each, making in all sixty thousand Livres. To M. d'Argouges, first President of the Parliament of Bretagne, thirty thousand Livres; to M. Tubeuf, President of the Chamber of Accounts of Paris, and Superintendant of the Finances, Demesnes, and Revenues of the said Lady the Queen, the Sum of an hundred thousand Livres; to M. de Bertillac, Treasurer general of her Household, sixty thousand Livres;

Livres; to M. Fouilloux, Ensign of a Company of her Life-Guards, ten thousand *Livres*; to M. d' Avaux, Comptroller general of her Household, forty thousand *Livres*; to M. Cantarigni, another Comptroller general of her Household, twenty thousand *Livres*; to M. Dance, Apothecary to her Person, ten thousand *Livres*; to M. Gabouri forty thousand *Livres*, including herein fifteen thousand *Livres*, of which her Majesty has been pleas'd to dispatch an order for prompt payment: To M. Joieux, her first Valet de Chambre, thirty thousand *Livres*; to M. Guillain her Taylor, ten thousand *Livres*; to M. Bellot, Keeper of her Cabinets and Oratories, six thousand *Livres*; to the Under-Officers of her Chamber, Stables and Offices, the Sum of two hundred thousand *Livres*, to be distributed by the Executors of her present Will, as they shall think proper.

ITEM, The said Lady the Queen begs the King, that he wou'd be pleas'd to improve all the Funds of the Assignments, which he hath been pleas'd to give her, both for the ordinary and extraordinary Expences of her Family for this Tear, and the former Tears, tho they are not expir'd, (excepting only fifty four thousand *Livres* per Month, payable to Spain, and which cease to be payable on the Day of her Decease) and that he wou'd be pleas'd likewise to let the Treasurer-General of her Household receive such part of her annual Rents and Revenues of her Demesnes, as will expire with her Death, including the last Day of this present Tear; to the end that the Officers and Creditors of the said Lady the Queen, who have advanc'd any Money, or receiv'd Assignments there-

whereupon, may be paid, that her Conscience may be discharg'd, and the Execution of this her Will receive no Damage.

ITEM, The said Lady the Queen prays the King, that he wou'd be pleas'd to improve what remains due of the 200000 Livres, a Fund which he settled in the Year 1665, for the building of Val de Grace; and that he wou'd be pleas'd to settle such another Fund of 200000 Livres for the ensuing Year 1666, to finish the said Building.

ITEM, The said Lady the Queen prays the King farther, that he wou'd be pleas'd to remember the Recommendation she made to him in favour of the principal Officers of her Household, and that he wou'd be pleas'd also to grant his Protection to all her other Domesticks.

ITEM, The said Lady the Queen wills and orders, that the Relicks and Shrines, which are in her Oratory, near her Chamber, in the Castle of the Louvre in Paris, be remov'd to the Abbey and Nuns of the said Monastery, who shall charge themselves with the Receipt thereof at the bottom of the Inventory that shall be made of them by the Executors of this her Will.

ITEM, The said Lady the Queen wills and ordains, that there shall perpetually, every Day, be celebrated a low Mass according to her Intention, in one of the Chappels of the said Abbey of Val de Grace; and that for this purpose, a Contract shall be made for the Establishment of the said Mass between the said Executors and the said Abbess and Nuns, upon such Conditions as they shall think fit.

ITEM, The said Lady the Queen prays the King, that he wou'd be pleas'd to let her com-
mit

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mit the Execution of this her Will to M. Colbert, Counsellor and Comptroller-General, and Intendant of the Finances; to M. d'Argouges, first President to the Parliament of Bretagne; to M. Tubeuf, President of the Chamber of Accompts in Paris, and M. le Tellier, Secretary of State, one of the Witnesses, whose Name is under-written; and that his Majesty wou'd do them the favour to assist them with his Protection, in case any unforeseen Difficulty shou'd arise, either in the Form of this Will, or in the Dispositions therein made.

Which said Will was so made, dictated, and nam'd by that most High, most Powerful, most excellent Princess, to the Counsellors and Secretaries of State abovemention'd; and by one of them in the Presence of the other, read over and over again to the said Lady the Queen, who said she understood it well, in her Chamber in the New Castle of *St. Germain en Laie*, where her Majesty is sick in Bed, in the Year 1665, on the 3d Day of *August* at Noon; and the said Lady the Queen sign'd it,

A N N E.

De Guenegant.

Le Tellier.

And underneath is writ,

I approve this Will,

Sign'd,

LOUIS.

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ERRATA.

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PAg. 7. l. 9. from the bottom, before *was*, r. *which*.
p. 11. l. 1. for *she*, r. *he*. l. 2. for *her*, r. *him*.
and l. 3. for *had a great desire to become*, r. *wish'd he*
had been. p. 154. l. 20. dele *with*. p. 182. l. 24. for
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l. 20. for *secure*, r. *severe*. l. ult. r. *Maids*. p. 213.
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tages, r. *Advances*. p. 255. l. 2. from the bottom,
for *off*, r. *of*. p. 256. l. 3. before *be*, r. *shou'd*. p. 264.
l. 9. for *ache*, r. *ake*. p. 273. l. 9. dele the first *in*.
l. 13. from the bottom, for *was*, r. *were*.

